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ABSTRACT

This is an experimental textbook for teaching about the visual arts at the elementary level. The content answers five questions about art: what is art; who makes art; what are the sources for art; why is art important to you; and why is art important to society. At the end of each section of the text is a set of questions and suggestions for individual activities. New words are capitalized and important concepts underlined. Black and white illustrations are plentiful. (KSM)

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ALL ABOUT ART

Ronald H. Silverman

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ALL ABOUT ART

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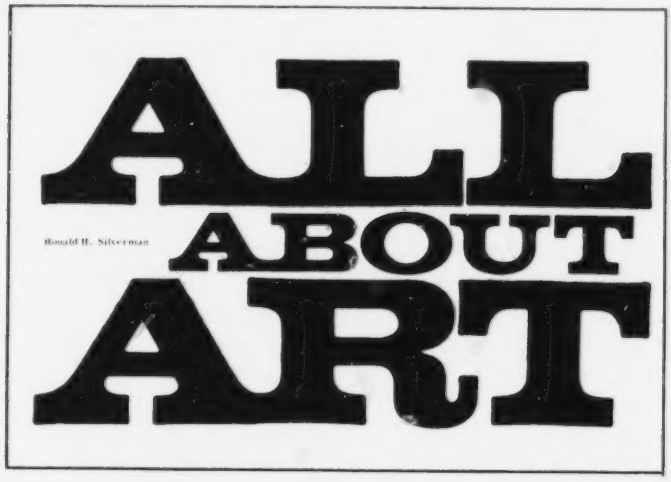

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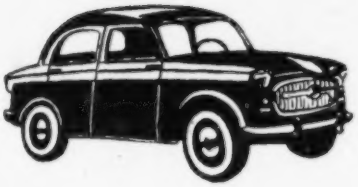
INTRODUCTION

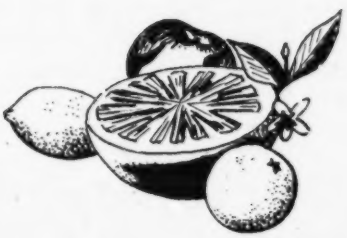
This book is to help you learn about the VISUAL arts. Music, stories, poems, dancing and plays can also be called art. But, in this book, you will be learning only about those things we see that are called art.

As you read this book you will see that some words have been CAPITALIZED. These are words that may be new to you. What they mean is explained as you read. The words that are underlined near the new words will help you to understand them. Therefore, while you are learning about the visual arts you will also be building your understanding of words. This will help you in COMMUNICATING with others. Knowing more words makes it easier to tell others what you are thinking about. It also makes it easier for you to understand what they have to say to you.

At the end of each part of this book is a set of questions that are related to what you have been reading. Suggestions are also made for activities which will help you to learn even more. Answering all the questions and following the suggestions will give you more chances to think about art, as well as help you develop your ability to use what you have learned.

When we look at something, we are using our eyes. This is called "having a visual experience". And the things we see are called VISUAL DATA. As you read this book, you will learn that many kinds of visual data can be art. If you read carefully and think about what you are reading, you will learn why we use the word "art" when talking about some visual data, and not when talking about others. You will also learn where art comes from, who makes art, and why art is important to you and to other people.





VISUAL DATA

PART I

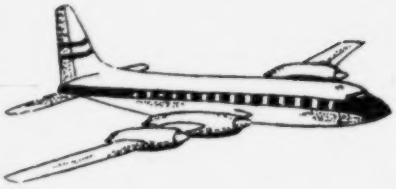
WHAT IS ART?

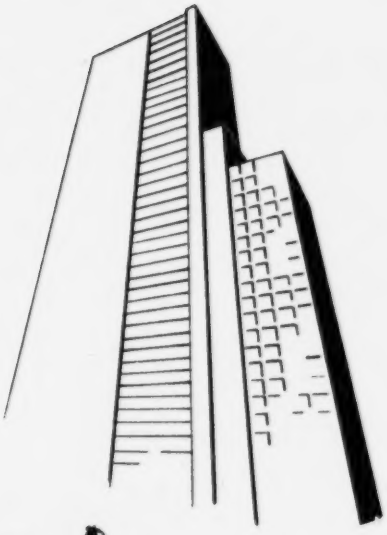
Try to make a list in your mind of the VARIETY of things you have seen that were of special interest to you. As you list the different kinds of things you have seen, try to think about how you REACTED. For example: how did you feel when you looked at a very blue sky or a full moon? Happy? Scared? Cold? What did you think about when you first saw a tall building or a large truck? How high it was? How heavy? What it could do? What you felt and thought were your REACTIONS to the things you experienced through your eyes.

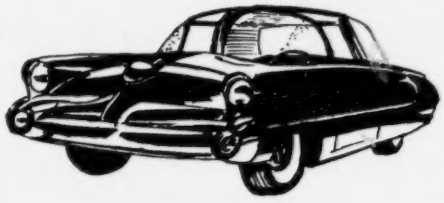
When a person sets out to make something that will make us react through our eyes in certain ways to the things he has made, we call that person an artist. And a work of art is an OBJECT, or thing, through which the artist tells us about his ideas and experiences. Through his SKILL and IMAGINATION the artist tells us about many things. He knows how to use tools and materials in ways which help him to communicate his ideas to others. We call the object the artist makes "art" when he gets us to react to the lines, shapes, textures and colors that he uses to EXPRESS or tell us about, his ideas. On the next few pages you will learn how this happens, as you try to answer the question, What is Art?

As you read and look at this book you will see photographs of VARIOUS things that are called art. As you look at these many different objects you should notice that your reactions will not always be the same. Some things may make you laugh, others will make you sad. You may not like some objects and others may only confuse you. The words you will be reading that tell you about these forms will help you to understand what you are looking at and why you react as you do, so be sure to read carefully.

On the next page are examples of things that are FAMILIAR to your vision. Houses, buildings, trees, and cars are some of the things you see almost every day. Can you think of other things that you see very often? Shoes? Chairs? Stones?







MATERIAL

IDEAS

FEELINGS

ELEMENTS

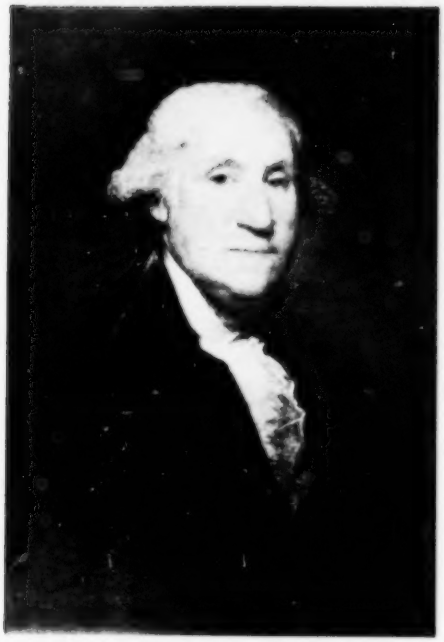
FUNCTION

TOOLS AND MATERIALS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

On the OPPOSITE page, you will see pictures A and B. They are photographs of two works of art. A is a painting made with many different kinds of artist's oil colors. B is a print made by cutting lines into a block of wood, covering the block of wood with printer's ink, and then pressing a piece of paper over the inked block. Wherever lines have been cut out of the wood, the ink does not print on the paper.

As you will notice in reading this book, the tools and materials used by artists are sometimes the same as those used by non-artists, --mechanics, carpenters or welders, for instance. Sometimes they are materials used only by artists. Picture A was painted on a cloth called CANVAS, and a special kind of paint was used. Picture B was made with ink very much like the ink used to print this book.

The head of a man appears in both pictures A and B. But A and B look very different. One reason why they look so different is because different materials were used to make them. Remember, the kinds of tools and materials used by the artist will affect what he makes. When you look at art, one of the things you should always react to (feel and think about) is the way materials have been used.

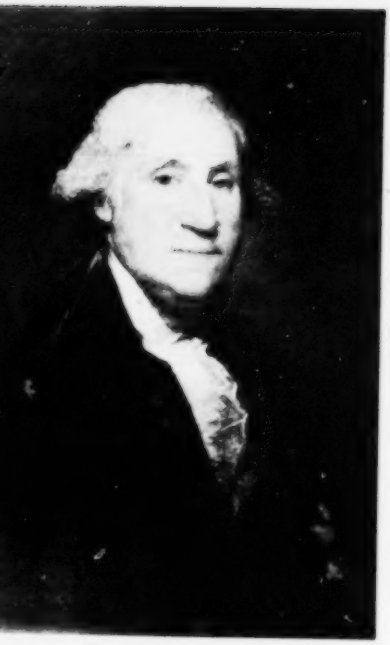


A George Washington

You may have seen this pic
PORTRAIT of our first P
Washington. By painting t
Stuart, the artist, is able t
about President Washingto
hair, and the shape of his n
for example. We also see
ington had soft hair and sm
Mr. Stuart's skill in painti
way different things feel wh

B The Prophet

Emile Nolde is the name of
this portrait. He calls it
prophet is a person who spe
portant idea. Would you sa
a happy message? Mr. No
texture and strong black an
communicate a very differ
What are your feelings abou
message does it bring to yo



You may have seen this picture before. It is a PORTRAIT of our first President, George Washington. By painting this head, Gilbert Stuart, the artist, is able to tell us many things about President Washington: the style of his hair, and the shape of his nose, eyes and mouth, for example. We also see that President Washington had soft hair and smooth skin because of Mr. Stuart's skill in painting TEXTURES (the way different things feel when we touch them).

Emile Nolde is the name of the artist who made this portrait. He calls it "The Prophet". A prophet is a person who speaks about some important idea. Would you say he was bringing us a happy message? Mr. Nolde uses a very rough texture and strong black and white contrast to communicate a very different message to us. What are your feelings about this portrait. What message does it bring to you?

ART CAN BE A CHAIR

You have been reading about how artists cause us to experience different kinds of things through the ways they work with various tools and materials. Artists such as Gilbert Stuart help us to know how someone looked even though he lived and died long before we were born. And artists like Emile Nolde help us to have important feelings and thoughts when we look at the objects they make.

On the next page are drawings of objects that can also be called art. In what way are they different from pictures A and B? These objects may be interesting to look at and cause us to have certain feelings, but they are also things that we can use. They are FUNCTIONAL. Portraits A and B can not be used to hold water, or to sit on. They have no function other than to communicate certain ideas and feelings. However, just because something is a jar or a chair does not mean that it cannot also communicate important ideas and feelings. But not all functional objects are art.

When you turn the page you will see photographs of three chairs. Study them carefully. One of the three is a work of art. A chair just like it is on exhibit in an art museum in New York. Can you guess which chair is also an art object? Chair A, B, or C?

CHAIR A

CHAIR B

CHAIR C

One way to find out which chair is art is to try to put into words what you feel and think about as you look at Chairs A, B, and C. What kinds of words would you use to DESCRIBE, to tell about, the different chairs? Maybe, you need to be helped to see certain things as you try describing your feelings about these three chairs.

For example, look at the seat of each chair. Which one do you think would be most comfortable? Which chair is shaped in such a way that it goes along with the way our bodies - our legs and back - are shaped? Sitting in a chair and finding that it is very comfortable may result in our liking the chair. But if a chair is also to serve as an object called art, it must also look good to us. We, then, need to ask a few different kinds of questions.

Which chair is most interesting to look at because of the variety of shapes and sizes you can see? Which chair is made up of the most pleasant shapes? Which chair can be called art?

Have you made your choice? How many of your classmates agree with you? To find out if you made the right choice, you will have to ask your teacher. Your teacher knows which chair is thought of as a work of art.

By now you should understand that art is an object made by a person called an artist. Such objects may or may not be useful. When a useful object also gives you a great deal of PLEASURE (makes you feel good or happy) when you look at it, you can say that, for you, the object is a work of art.

Over the next few pages you will be looking at and reading about the variety of objects, both functional and non-functional, called art. You will be continuing to answer the question, What is Art?

OBJECTS CALLED ART – OUR BASIC NEEDS

You must have food to be healthy and strong. You must also have clothing and shelter to be protected from hot and cold weather, and the wind and rain. Food, clothing, and shelter are things we all must have. They are often called our BASIC NEEDS.

Almost anyone can make and serve some kind of food needed to keep people alive, or put together something - clothing and shelter - that will protect them from bad weather. But when food, clothing, and shelter are made to do more than serve basic needs, they often become objects that are called art. Such objects can SATISFY, or take care of, our basic needs and also give us great pleasure. Artists who plan for and make these objects are called DESIGNERS and CRAFTSMEN.

Food can be made and served with great care so that you enjoy looking at it as well as eating it. Designers plan how the packages, the CONTAINERS, that hold your food, will look. Craftsmen take great care in making beautiful bowls and dishes. Other artists, called FASHION designers, plan your clothing so that while you are protected from the weather you will also be ATTRACTIVE (look good). Artists called ARCHITECTS plan or design all kinds of shelter - houses, factories, office buildings, schools, etc. - so that while being protected from the sun, rain, and wind you can live and work better.

You have learned that artists plan and make objects designed to serve man's basic needs. Can you think of other kinds of things you use that are planned for or made by artists? On the opposite page, you will see a list of areas that include useful objects that are planned or made by designers or craftsmen. You will also see drawings of examples of these objects. See if you can match the words and pictures.

ENGINEERIN

COMMUNICA

RELIGION

WEARING A

EDUCATION

TRANSPORT

NUTRITION

ENTERTAIN

SANITATION

HOME FURN

CONSTRUCT

ENGINEERING

COMMUNICATIONS

RELIGION

WEARING APPAREL

EDUCATION

TRANSPORTATION

NUTRITION

ENTERTAINMENT

SANITATION

HOME FURNISHINGS

CONSTRUCTION

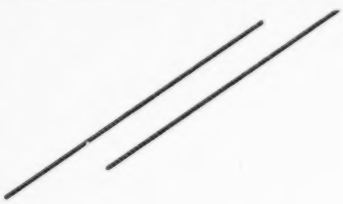
OBJECTS CALLED ART – EVERYDAY EVENTS

You have been reading about the many useful objects - from bowls to buildings - that are often called art because they function so well and are so attractive they give you a great deal of pleasure. These kinds of objects are used in your everyday activities. There are, however, other objects that you also experience every day that are not used for holding food, for clothing or shelter. To discus these other everyday objects, we need first to explain the meaning of a few new words.

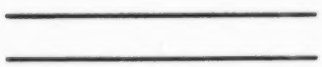
You probably already know that crayon, chalk, and paint can be used to make pictures. Each of these ways to make a picture is called a MEDIUM. Crayon is a medium, as is chalk, and paint. When we talk about more than one medium we use the word MEDIA. Chalk, crayon, and paint are media used for making pictures. When talking about what most people do, the phrase "MASS of people" is often used. The art objects we will discus next are part of the MASS MEDIA: the different ways used to bring pictures and information to most people almost every day. The mass media are television, movies, newspapers, and magazines.

Sometimes you will watch a television show or a movie, or see a picture in a newspaper or magazine that makes you happy, sad, or even angry. Many times the things you see are planned to make you feel just the way you do. Artists, called art directors or photographers, have the job of DIRECTING or guiding your reactions so that you will be pleased, excited, saddened, or even scared by what you see. They also have the job of making the pictures you see go along with the words actors speak or the words you are reading.

On the opposite page are examples of how the VISUAL ELEMENTS - lines, shapes, textures, and dark and light contrast - might be used to guide your thoughts and feelings.



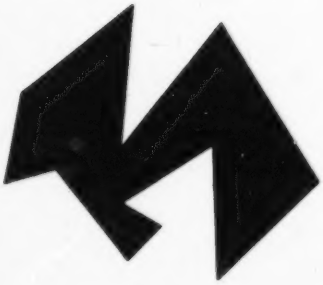
fast or quick



quiet

rough

smooth or flowing



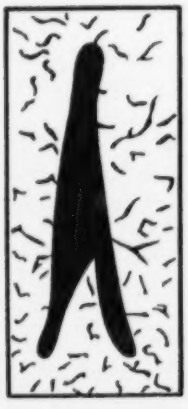
sharp

soft

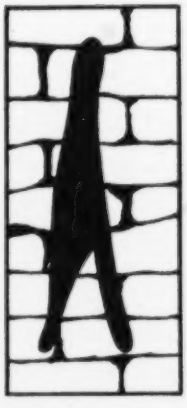
strong

pure

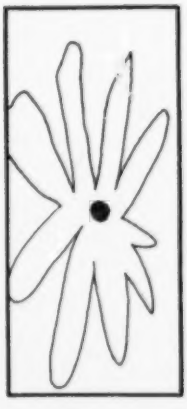
free



dainty

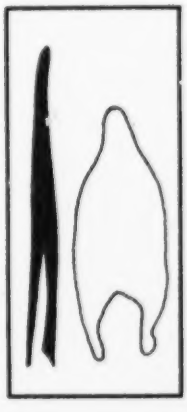


bold

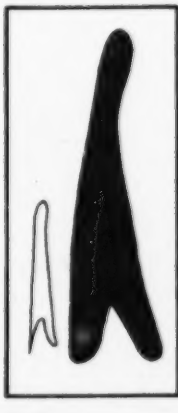


closed

open



slim/fat



little/big

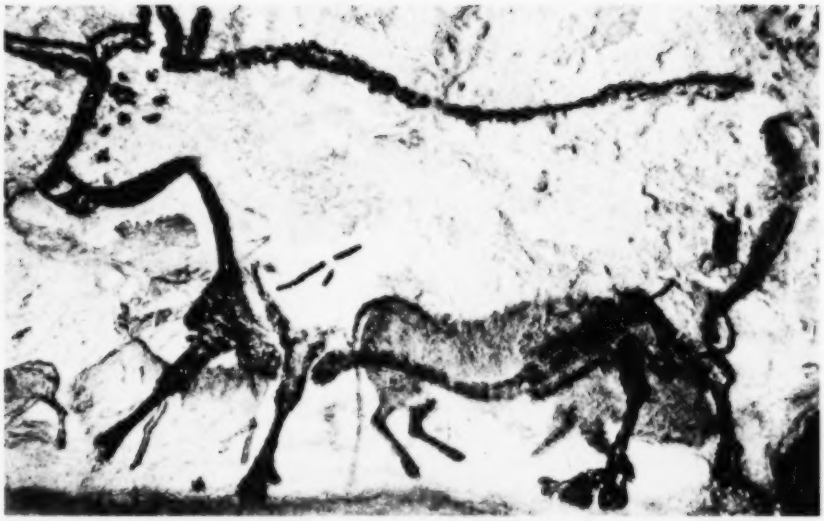
OBJECTS CALLED ART – FEELINGS AND IDEAS

You have learned that many things you experience in your everyday life can be called art. Of course, not everything you experience nor all the objects you see can be called art. Do you think you now know what the differences are between objects called art and objects that are not CLASSIFIED (given the name of) art? To help you answer this question you will need to read more about those things that are most important in art objects: the way art objects make us feel and the things they get us to think about. You will next be reading about art objects which are not part of the mass media and are not meant to have a useful purpose.

Art objects having no useful purpose and which are not part of the mass media are often found in special places planned to DISPLAY these objects. A place that specializes in showing such objects is called an art MUSEUM or GALLERY. The art objects on display are often very old and very valuable. Sometimes new objects are also displayed. The job of the museum or gallery is to show the best examples of art that have been made over a period of thousands of years, and also to display the best art work being made today.

Remember, most of the objects on display in art museums and galleries have no useful purpose. They cannot be used for food, clothing or shelter. Why, then, have special places been built for these things, and why are so many of these things worth a great deal of money?

Works of art provide people with deep emotional experiences and they also INFORM or tell us about many important ideas that have to do with the times when the object was made. On the next few pages, you will be looking at four examples of the kinds of art objects you will find in art museums and galleries. We will discus some of the feelings and ideas to be found in these art objects.



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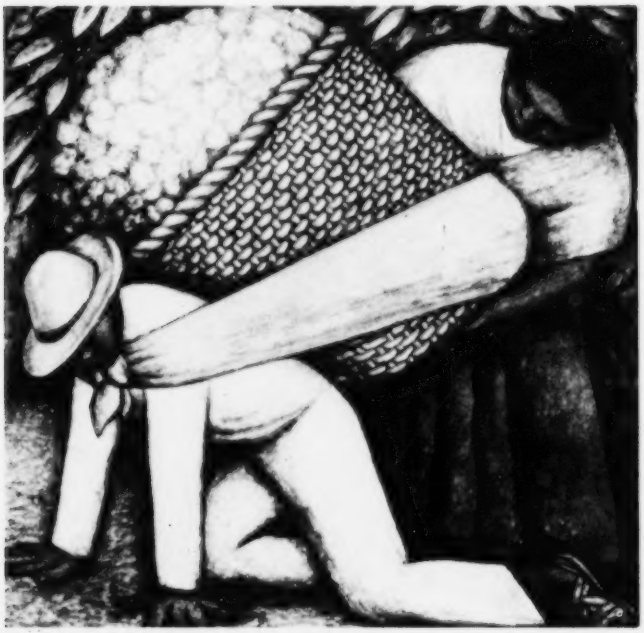


THE FLOWER VENDOR
by Diego Rivera

A man carrying a very large and he
is the subject of this picture. It wa
several years ago, in 1935. The s
basket and the way it fills up the pai
us feel pushed down, as if we wer
carrying this load ourselves. If you
this painting for a while you might
feel very sad about the man's BURD
painting may also make you think
heavy loads men and women everyw
to carry when they do not have mach
the job for them.

This drawing is one of the oldest art works that we know about. The museum it is displayed in is really a cave. This is a photograph of a drawing made on the wall of Lascaux Cave in France, about 15,000 years ago. Yet when we look at it today, we can still react to the feelings of strength and ANIMATION, or movement, which the artist put into the fine drawing.

THE FLOWER VENDOR
by Diego Rivera

A man carrying a very large and heavy basket is the subject of this picture. It was painted several years ago, in 1935. The size of the basket and the way it fills up the painting makes us feel pushed down, as if we were actually carrying this load ourselves. If you think about this painting for a while you might even begin to feel very sad about the man's BURDEN. This painting may also make you think about the heavy loads men and women everywhere have to carry when they do not have machines to do the job for them.

CHRIST
by Rembrandt Van Rijn

This picture was painted over 300 years ago. The subject of this painting is very different from the animal drawings at Lascaux Cave. It is a portrait of a great religious leader wh tried to help people by teaching them to love each other and to treat everyone with kindnes If you look carefully at this picture perhaps y will see how the artist, Rembrandt, has pain ed this "love for man" into the face of his sul ject. He looks like a gentle and sensitive person because of the soft light on the side o his head, the edge of his nose and his lips. Hard lines and edges do not appear in this painting. If they did, this portrait of Chris would be a much different picture.

GUERNICA
by Pablo Picas

This is a photograph of a painting that is very large. It would probably cover one whole wall of your class room. What do you think is the subject of this picture? How does it make you feel?

This painting was made by a Spanish artist named Picasso to PROTEST, to react against, a very terrible act of war, -- the airplane bombing of a small city in Spain name Guernica. The people and animals in the painting appear to be in great pain; everything seems to be all mixed up.

"Guernica" is thought of as a great painting because it shows so well how terrible war really is. We do not have feelings of great pleasure from it, but if you saw the ORIGINAL, the real one, you would probably be shocked by what the artist had painted, and you would probably think about war and what it does to people.

OBJECTS CALLED ART – FEELINGS, IDEAS AND SPACE

While trying to answer the question, What is art?, you have learned that many things can be art. Most often useful objects need to be beautiful and give us feelings of real pleasure before we will call them art. Art objects that are not useful can also be beautiful, as are some of the pictures you just looked at. But, in order to be really great art, they must make many people have deep feelings such as great happiness, or sadness, or even feelings of horror, as in "Guernica". They also need to make us think deeply about ourselves, and other people, and about what is happening in our world and what has happened in the world in the past.

The final type of art object to be discussed is very much like the pictures you have just seen, except for one difference. We will call this difference "real space". If you will look at these pictures again, you will see that some things look round, others look closer and yet others appear to be further away. None of these things, however, are really the way they look. Everything in these pictures is really flat, because pictures have only height and width; they have only two DIMENSIONS.

Art objects that have another dimension, real depth or thickness, are called SCULPTURE. On the opposite page you will see photographs of two examples of sculpture. Remember, these are pictures of art objects that have height, width, and depth. The space that you see between the materials used to make the sculptured pieces is real, and the materials, themselves, are three-dimensional.

Below is a work of sculpture called "Horse and Rider". It was made in 1947 by a sculptor named Marino Marini. Can you tell by looking at this sculpture if Marini has made an old or young man? Is the person or horse from any special part of our world? Both the horse and rider seem to lack any IDENTITY. It is hard to tell who they are or from where they might come. What idea do you think Marini is expressing about our world?

Above is a piece of sculpture made i
1965 by Reuben Nakian. He calls it '
Hiroshima is the name of a city in Ja
the first city to be bombed with an a
What do you think Nakian is telling us
shima in this piece of sculpture?

pture called "Horse and
947 by a sculptor named
tell by looking at this
ade an old or young man?
om any special part of our
nd rider seem to lack any
tell who they are or from
What idea do you think
ut our world?

Above is a piece of sculpture made in 1964 and 1965 by Reuben Nakian. He calls it "Hiroshima". Hiroshima is the name of a city in Japan. It was the first city to be bombed with an atom bomb. What do you think Nakian is telling us about Hiroshima in this piece of sculpture?

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

You have been reading about objects called art. You should have learned that many things can be classified as art. To find out how much you really did learn, try to answer the following questions.

1. What is meant by the word VISION?

2. How do the tools and materials used by artists make a difference in the way an art object looks?

3. What is meant by the word COMMUNICATION?

4. What happens to you when you are REACTING to an art object?

5. When is a useful object also an art object?

6. What does art have to do with our BASIC NEEDS?

7. What is meant by the words MASS MEDIA?

8. Where do we find art objects that are very old and very valuable?

9. Why are art objects that we cannot use still valuable to us?

10. What is the main difference between painting and sculpture?

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEARNING MORE ABOUT ART

1. Make a collection of pictures taken from cartons, package wrappings, newspapers, and magazines. These should be pictures that you react to in some way and that you would call art. Ask yourself why you react to them. If you are confused about what things might be called art, ask your teacher about them.

2. Try cutting a potato in half and carving your initials into one of the cut ends. Cover your carving with ink and stamp the potato on paper. This is a simple way of printing and very much like the way Picture B on page 7 was made.

3. Draw a member of your family with a sharp pencil, then use a dull pencil to make another drawing of the same person. What differences do you see in the two drawings?

4. On your way home from school, pick out the house or apartment in which you would like to live. Why do you like it? Is it the yard, the color, the trees? Or do you like the materials it is made of, the wood or brick? Is it the feeling you get when looking at it, its neatness, fanciness, bigness?

5. While shopping, notice the many different packages and containers. Select the ones you like the best. Try to think why they are different from the others. Are there any packages or containers you could call art objects?

6. Make a title card for your favorite T.V. show. Other people should be able to know from looking at your card whether the show is a comedy, sports, or mystery program.

7. Tell a friend about something you have seen, an animal, dress, car, or building. Then draw a picture of the same thing. Ask your friend which was easier to understand, --the words or your picture.

PART II

WHO MAKES ART?

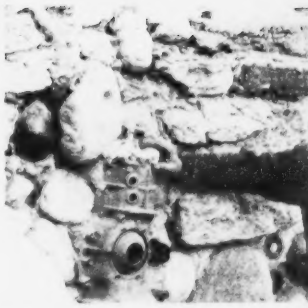
You have been reading about and looking at examples of objects called art. You should now be able to answer the question, What is art? In this second section of your book, you will be INTRODUCED to people who actually make art. If you look at the opposite page, you will meet these people for the first time. On the pages that follow, you can get to know them better. You will learn what they do and why they are called artists, craftsmen, or designers.

You will also learn that people like yourself are able to produce art. The difference between you and these makers of art is that they have ACQUIRED SKILLS and imagination which they use to express feelings and ideas. Perhaps, as you read about these people, you will find that you also want to learn how to produce art.

Different names are used to describe different kinds of artists. Sometimes the word "artist" is used when we are talking about a person who uses special pencils or paints to do his work. He may be a person who also does some three-dimensional work. When an artist specializes in the use of only some kinds of materials, or if he always does certain types of work, we may call him by another name. On the opposite page you will see pictures of artists and the special titles used to help us understand the different things they do.

Graphic Designer

Photographer

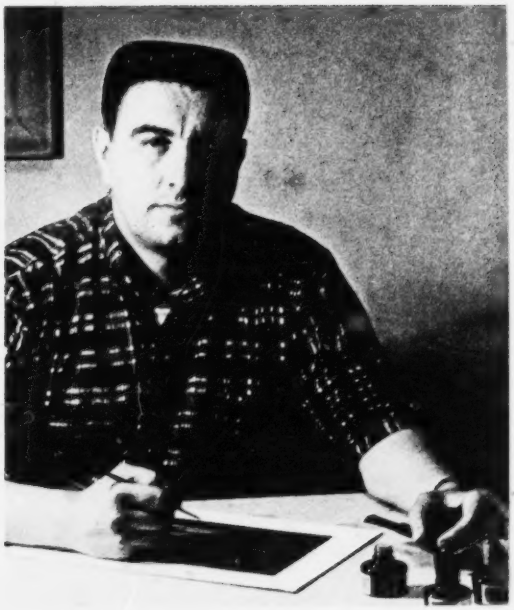


Artists and
Assemblers

Sculptor

Craftsman

aphic Designer



Photographer

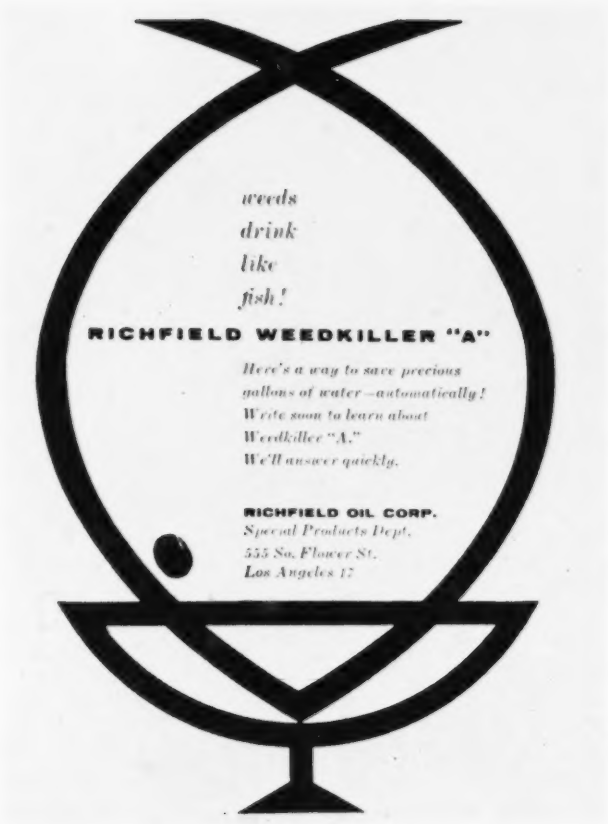
Artists and
Assemblers

Craftsman

DESIGNERS

The first artists you will meet are designers. Their job is to help make what we use and see in our everyday lives attractive and interesting. Designers are planners. They plan how all kinds of objects, from telephones to automobiles, and from chairs to buildings, will look and function.

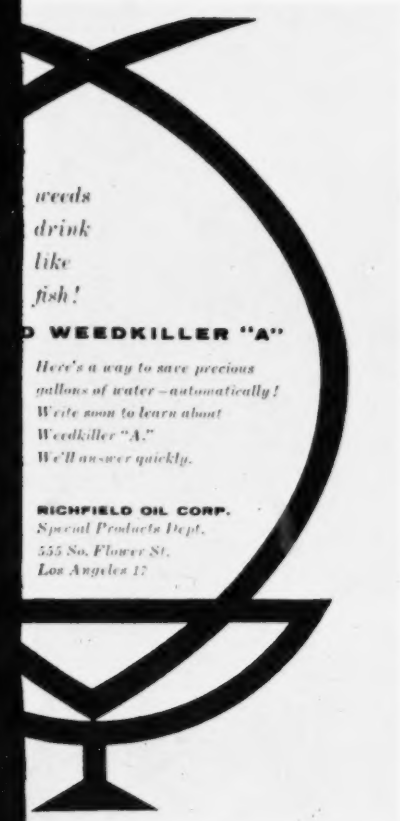
Before deciding how something should look, designers must know many things. For example, Mr. Farber has planned how packages should look that hold different kinds of objects. In order to design any package, Mr. Farber has to know the answers to the following questions: What kind of object will the package hold? Will the object be used mostly by a man, a woman, a boy or girl? Of what material will the package be made, -- wood, cardboard, or paper? How many colors can be used? How will the design be printed?



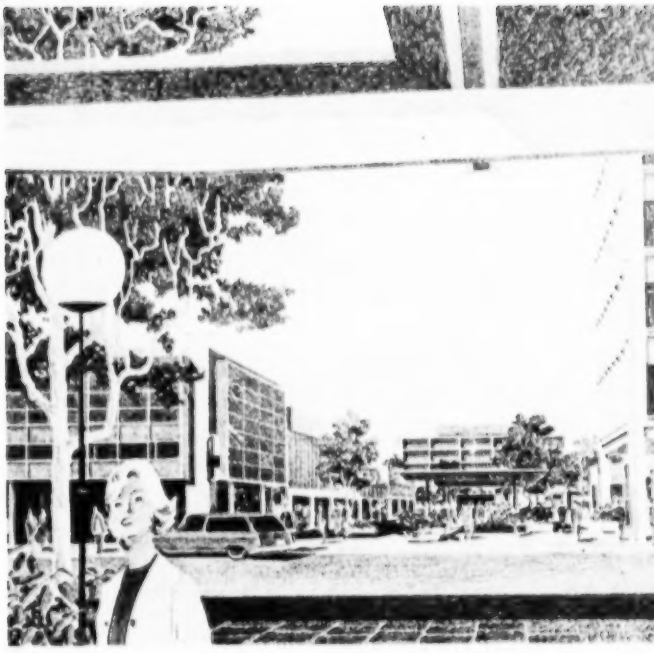
Mr. Farber is a designer who plans for th
we see and use in our everyday lives. Th
designs often appear in the mass media.
designs are REPRODUCED on printing pr
sands of copies of one design are made,
many, many others wi' see the same des
Farber uses reproduction, or printing pro
or print his design, he is called a GRAPHI

Mr. Farber also plans for all kinds of si
that try to tell you about something in su
you to want to buy or do what the sign sug
certain kind of weedkiller, or go to a spe
your car fixed. These kinds of messages
different places. You can see them in ne
magazines, on television, and on the ver
called BILLBOARDS, that you see as you
along the street or highway.

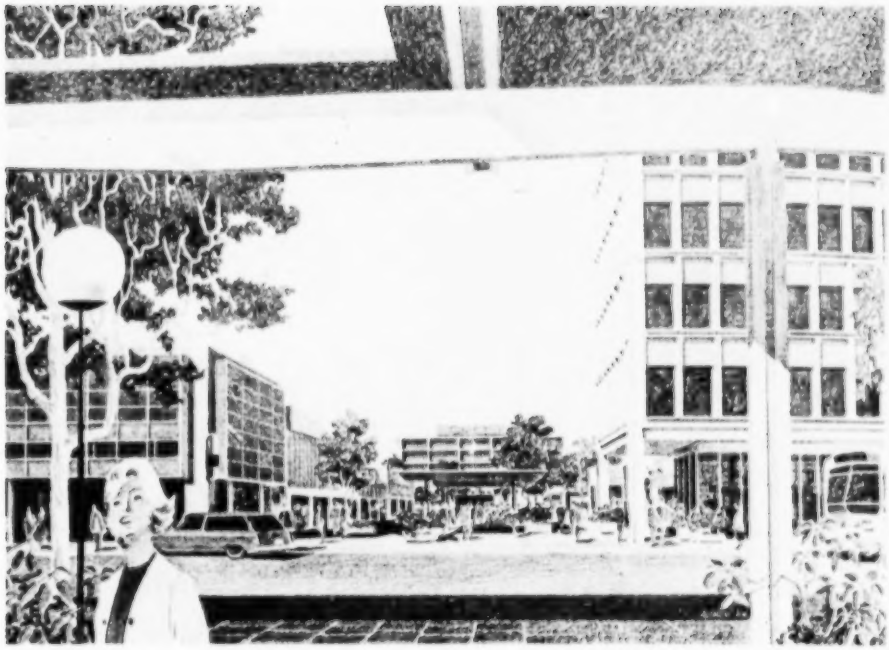
Mr. Farber is a designer who plans for the kinds of things we see and use in our everyday lives. The things that he designs often appear in the mass media. The things he designs are REPRODUCED on printing presses. Thousands of copies of one design are made, so that you and many, many others will see the same design. Because Mr. Farber uses reproduction, or printing processes, to make or print his design, he is called a GRAPHIC DESIGNER.



Mr. Farber also plans for all kinds of signs or messages that try to tell you about something in such a way as to get you to want to buy or do what the sign suggests: buy a certain kind of weedkiller, or go to a special place to get your car fixed. These kinds of messages appear in many different places. You can see them in newspapers and magazines, on television, and on the very large signs, called BILLBOARDS, that you see as you walk or ride along the street or highway.

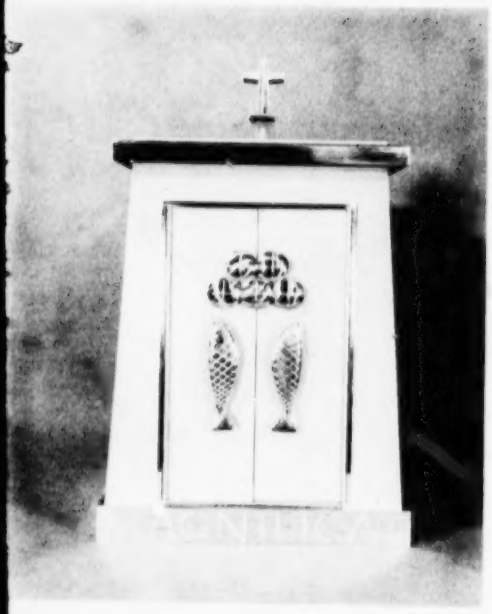


Architect and
Community Planner



CRAFTSMEN

Another kind of artist you need to know about is the craftsman. He is also a designer, because he plans how things will look and function. But he is different from the designer because he builds what he designs. Since he both plans and builds, the craftsman needs to be both a skilled designer and one who knows a great deal about the tools and materials he uses. Craftsmen usually build or make objects that have some purpose; a bowl to hold something, a piece of jewelry for decorating a dress, or an object to be used for special events.



This last purpose is the one for which Hudson Roysher plans and produces his craft objects. The things he makes are used in religious events, called CEREMONIES. Since a religious ceremony is a very special kind of event, the objects that are used must be very special. They need to be very beautiful and very well made. They must also be planned so that the way they look and the way they function will be part of the special event for which they are designed. Every shape, line, and texture that Mr. Roysher makes has something to do with the religious event for which he plans and builds.

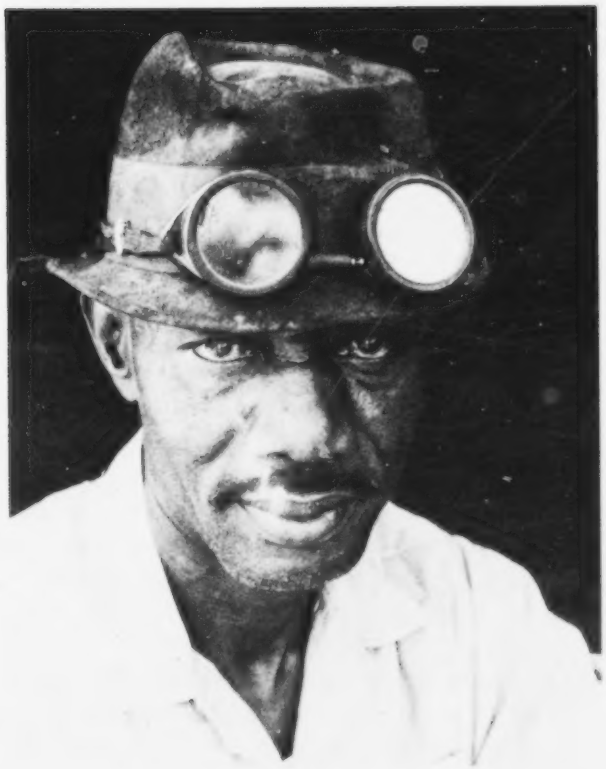
Craftsmen like Mr. Roysher are very interested in the materials they use to make their functional objects. Mr. Roysher uses materials that will last a long time and that are interesting to look at. He often uses PRECIOUS metals, such as silver and gold, because these valuable materials have a depth of color to them when they are polished which makes them very beautiful. Mr. Roysher makes these precious metals look even more beautiful, because he understands them and knows how to work with them. For example, the silver parts of the objects in the pictures look shiny and interesting because of the flat unpolished shapes or lines which are around or on them.

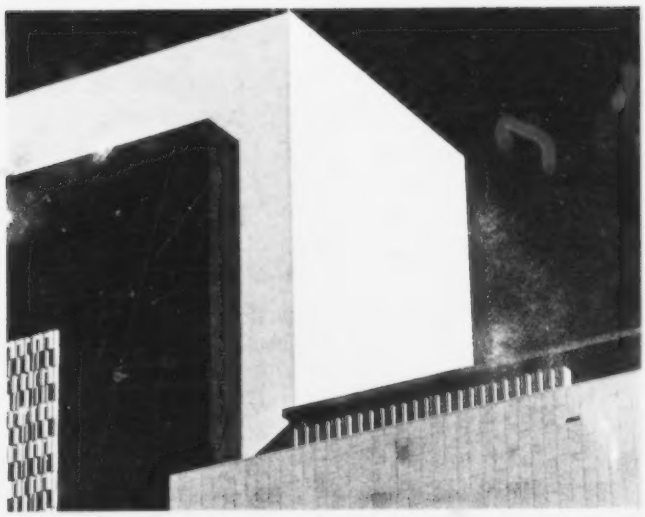
These pictures show you Mr. Roysher's great skill. Each object and each letter is very carefully made. These ceremonial pieces must be beautiful and function just right so that the religious ceremony in which they are used will also be a beautiful and important experience for the people involved in it.

Craftsmen work with many different kinds of materials as they make things that are both functional and beautiful. In Part I, you saw other examples of things craftsmen make. Can you name some of the materials craftsmen might use besides precious metals?

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Mr. Joseph Uribe uses mechanical equipment to make his pictures. He is a photographer, who uses the lens of his camera as his eyes. When he sees something worth photographing, he very carefully sets his camera to take just what he wants in his picture. Mr. Uribe takes his film to his workroom, called a PHOTO LAB, and develops the film. He may make some parts larger or smaller or darker or lighter. His tools are his camera and laboratory equipment. He must know how to use both with great skill in order to take and develop photographs that express important ideas and which attract and deserve our attention.





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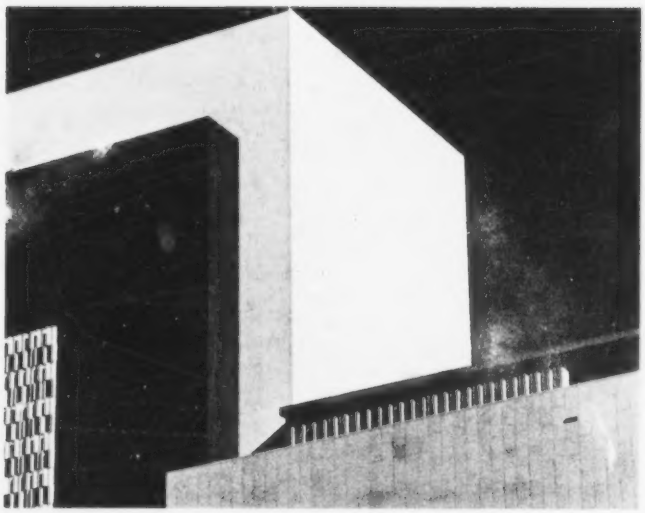


Designers and craftsmen are artists who need to know a great deal about materials and tools, in order to plan and make things that look good and work right. The artists you will read about next also need to know about tools and materials. They, however, are mostly interested in the ideas they express, and communicate by the way they make things look. As you will learn, these artists also use many different kinds of tools and materials to express their ideas.

PAINTERS AND SCULPTORS

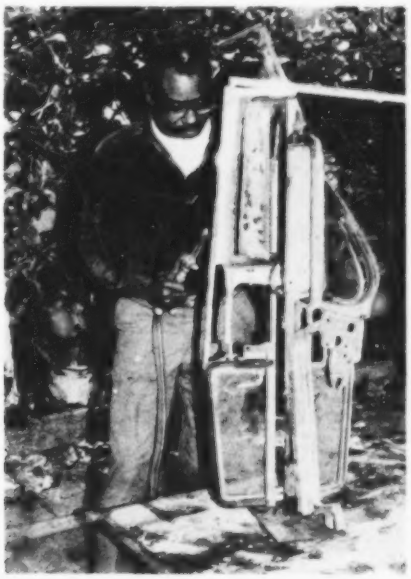
You have been reading about artists who have other names because of the specialized work they do: different kinds of designing, craftswork and photography. The artists described on these next pages produce works that have as their purpose making out visual world more interesting and worthwhile. These works may also serve to excite our imagination and cause us to think deeply about ourselves and the world in which we live.

Jiryar Zorthian is an artist who produces works that are pleasing to our vision. His drawing of a small boy is very skillfully done. The lines that are used to express all of the parts of this drawing are very interesting to look at because of the variety of thickness and the way they can describe in a very simple way something as complicated as the human figure.

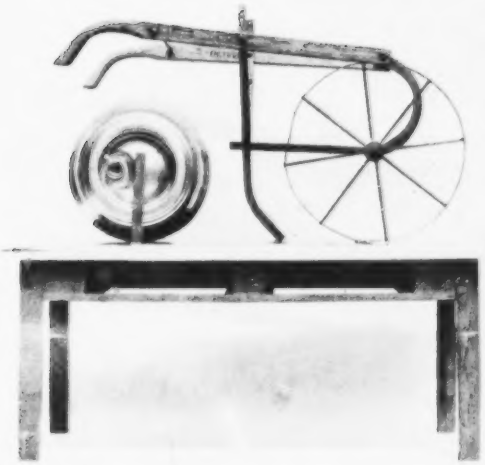
Mr. Zorthian also likes to build things. But he does not use ordinary building materials. You see him standing against a wall that he built. He has made this wall visually interesting by adding many different objects to give the wall a variety of textures. Do you see anything in this wall that you recognize? You probably see things that other people would throw away. Some people would call these things junk.

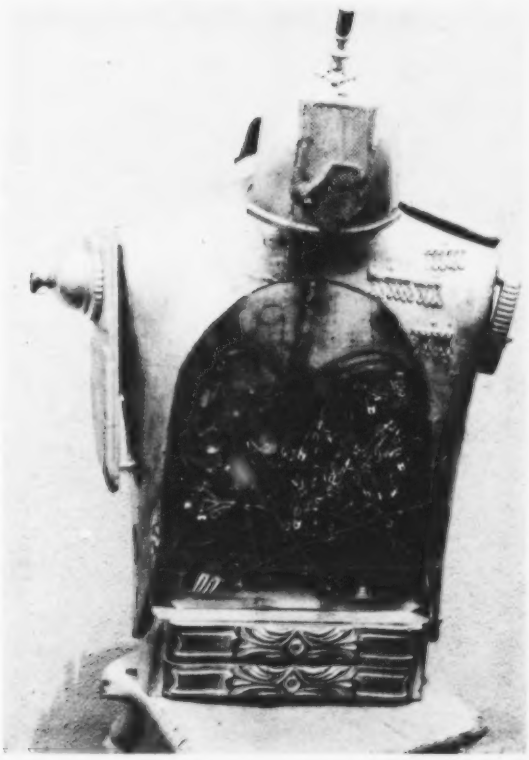
Another artist who has used junk to express his ideas is Noah Purifoy. He goes around collecting interesting objects that other people have thrown away. But he puts these together in such an interesting way that these objects do not appear as junk. They are TRANSFORMED, or changed, into works of art because of Mr. Purifoy's great skill and imagination. Through use of his imagination he can see interesting shapes, textures, and color in old bottles, pins, and metals that other people throw away.

TIN CANS



This ability to see imaginatively is one of the important things that separates artists from other people. Artists like Noah Purifoy see things in ordinary objects that non-artists do not see. Through their skill and imagination they put these objects together and thereby attract our attention to the beauty that can even exist in junk, if we are ready to see it.





SIR WATTS

Artists who use three-dimensional m
their ideas are called SCULPTORS.
sculptor who forms her materials wit
is interested in making objects that r
light off a surface that is very smooth
knows a great deal about how machin
to use their power and precision to m
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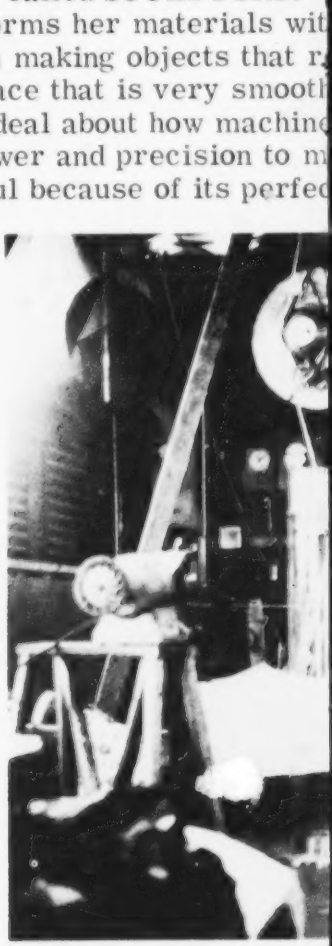
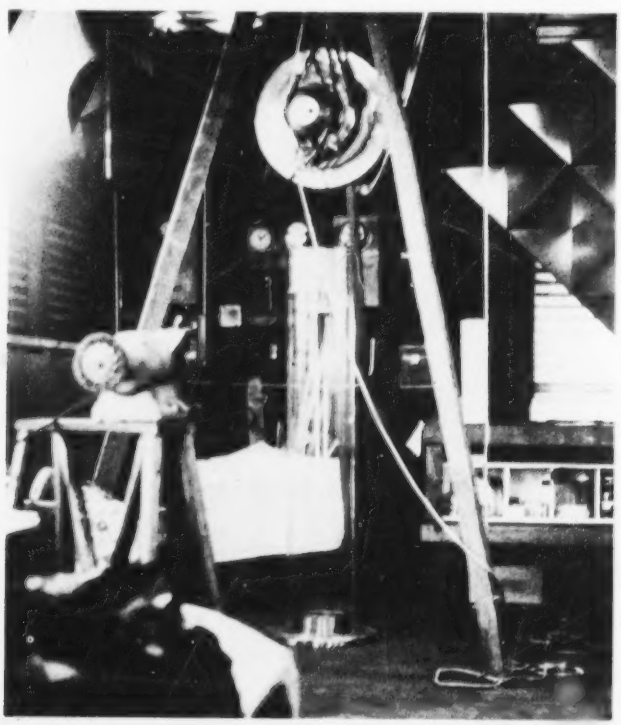


This is Miss DeAngel
shop called a STUDIO
see some of the equip
uses when she is scul

Artists who use three-dimensional materials to express their ideas are called SCULPTORS. Joan DeAngelo is a sculptor who forms her materials with machines. She is interested in making objects that receive and reflect light off a surface that is very smooth and perfect. She knows a great deal about how machines work and is able to use their power and precision to make sculpture that is very beautiful because of its perfection.



This is Miss DeAngelo's work-shop called a STUDIO. You can see some of the equipment she uses when she is sculpting.

Peter Voulk
dimensiona
with tools
his materi
saws, and a
the tools a
different fr
Angelo, the
he produce
when we l
sculpture,
than when l
direct form

This is Mr. Voulkos at work on one of his large, complicated sculptures. The pieces of bronze and iron look as if they were put together without any plan. But if you look at his finished works, you will see that large and small parts are carefully placed so that a very exciting pattern is made as light falls upon the various parts. What are your reactions to the works of Mr. Voulkos? What do you feel and think about as you look at his sculpture?

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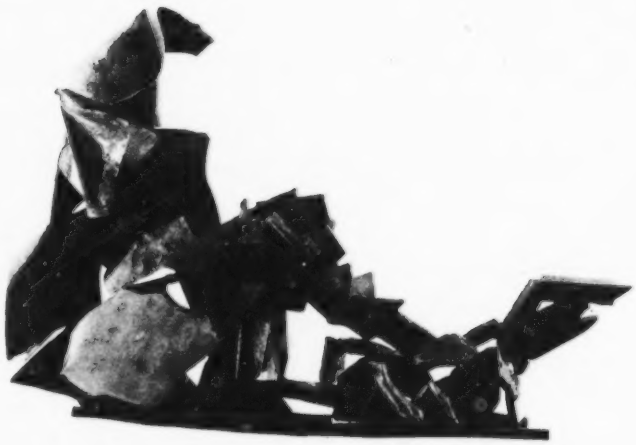
The pieces of bronze and iron look as
gether without any plan. But if you look
rks, you will see that large and small
placed so that a very exciting pattern
lls upon the various parts. What are
the works of Mr. Voulkos? What do
bout as you look at his sculpture?

Peter Voulkos also works with three-dimensional materials. But he works with tools which bring him closer to his materials, --hammers, files, saws, and a welder's torch. Because the tools and materials he uses are different from those used by Joan De Angelo, the appearance of the forms he produces is also different. And when we look at his complicated sculpture, we feel very different than when looking at the very simple, direct forms made by Miss DeAngelo.



BIG REMINGTON III

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

People who do many different things are called artists. To find how much you know about these different kinds of artists, try to answer the following questions.

1. What are some of the things done by artists called designers?

2. What do designers need to know about when they are planning a functional object?

3. What is the artist called who also makes the art objects which he designs?

4. What are some of the purposes for which craftsmen make objects?

5. When can a photographer also be called an artist?

6. What does a photographer use to produce art?

7. How does an artist TRANSFORM junk into art?

8. Sculptors are artists who work with what kinds of materials?

9. How many things you see every day can you name that were planned by people who might be called artists?

10. Why can designers, craftsmen, photographers, and people who make things out of junk be called artists?

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEARNING MORE ABOUT THOSE WHO MAKE ART

1. Think about the adults you know. Do any of them work on projects planned by designers? What kinds of projects would they be?

2. Look at the packages in the stores where you shop. Can you tell which packages were designed to appeal to children? Try to design a package for a child and an adult using the same product, --for example, soap or cereal.

3. Make a list of the billboards in your neighborhood. Give a grade of A, B, C, D, or F to the billboards. Which ones would get an A? Can you tell why?

4. While watching your favorite T. V. program, write down the name of the Art Director, also the people who plan the costumes and titles. How do these people help to make this program more enjoyable?

5. Watch a craftsman at work in your neighborhood. He might be a shoe-repair man, a photographer, or a sign painter. See how he uses his tools and materials. Notice how certain things happen when he changes the way he holds a tool.

6. Ask your family or friends if they know someone who is an artist. Pretend you are a reporter for a newspaper and INTERVIEW the artist. Ask him questions about his materials and where he gets his ideas for his work.

7. Visit your school or neighborhood library and check out books that tell about the lives of artists. Many of these books will also show you pictures of the art objects these artists have produced.

8. Collect pictures and articles from newspapers and magazines that tell about people who make art.

PART III

WHAT ARE SOURCES FOR ART?

In Part II of this book, you learned about people who make different kinds of art. These are artists, designers, and craftsmen who work in our country. Art is also produced in other countries. In fact, art has been produced over thousands of years and in almost every place in the world. Therefore, one way to answer the question, what are the SOURCES for art, is to explore where art comes from in terms of different times and different places.

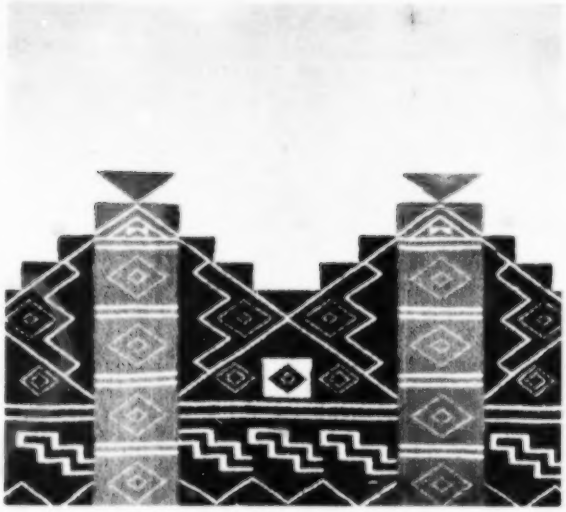
Another way to answer the same question is to discover where the people who make art get their ideas.

However, before you start exploring and discovering, you need to understand the meaning of a very important word, --CULTURE. This one word is used to describe all the things, --types of food, laws, styles of clothing, ideas, buildings, and much, much more, --that separate one country or group of people from another. For example, we can describe American culture as a place where there are free public schools, much T. V. watching, and great interest in mechanical things. But a different culture might not have free schools, or television or many mechanical things for people to use.

The most important thing to understand about culture is that when a person is born into a culture it will have a great deal to do with how he grows up. What the person thinks, feels, and does are all affected by his culture. You might even think of culture as the most important teacher because people learn the most from it. Can you think of things that your culture has taught you to do? What about your basic needs? What has your culture taught you about food, clothing, and shelter?

On the oppcsite page you can see how culture has influenced the style of clothing a person might wear. The photographs are from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico. They show how art forms of the past which are part of the Indian's culture influence what he will make today.

In the pictures below you will see pictures of both old and new art forms made by American Indians. Can you tell which objects were made by the students at the Institute? Which objects were made years ago?



An old altar cloth from New Mexico.

An old Pueblo clay bowl

The young woman is wearing a dress that she designed and made. The pattern down the front of the dress is one that has been used by the Santo Domingo tribe for many years. This young designer-craftsman is also a member of the Santo Domingo tribe.

These bowls were made by students from the Navajo, Santa Clara and San Juan tribes

There are many reasons why things look different. One of the most important reasons is the fact that there are differences in cultures. Artists are affected, just as all other people are, by the culture in which they live. When cultures are different, the reasons for making art and the way art objects look may also be different.

The pictures on these pages are placed around a map of the world to show you that art is made in every part of the world. The date beside each picture tells you when each object was made. Some things are very old and others were made just a few years ago.

Eagle Totem
Tlingit Indians
Sitka, Alaska

Around 1900

Totem Pole
Haida Indians
British Columbia

Around 1920

Sun Dial and Calendar
Aztec Indians
Mexico

Around 1500

Horus-Falcon
Egypt

Around 378 - 324 B.C.

Mask
Batetela
Africa

Around

Ja
Ch

Ar

Buddha Head
India

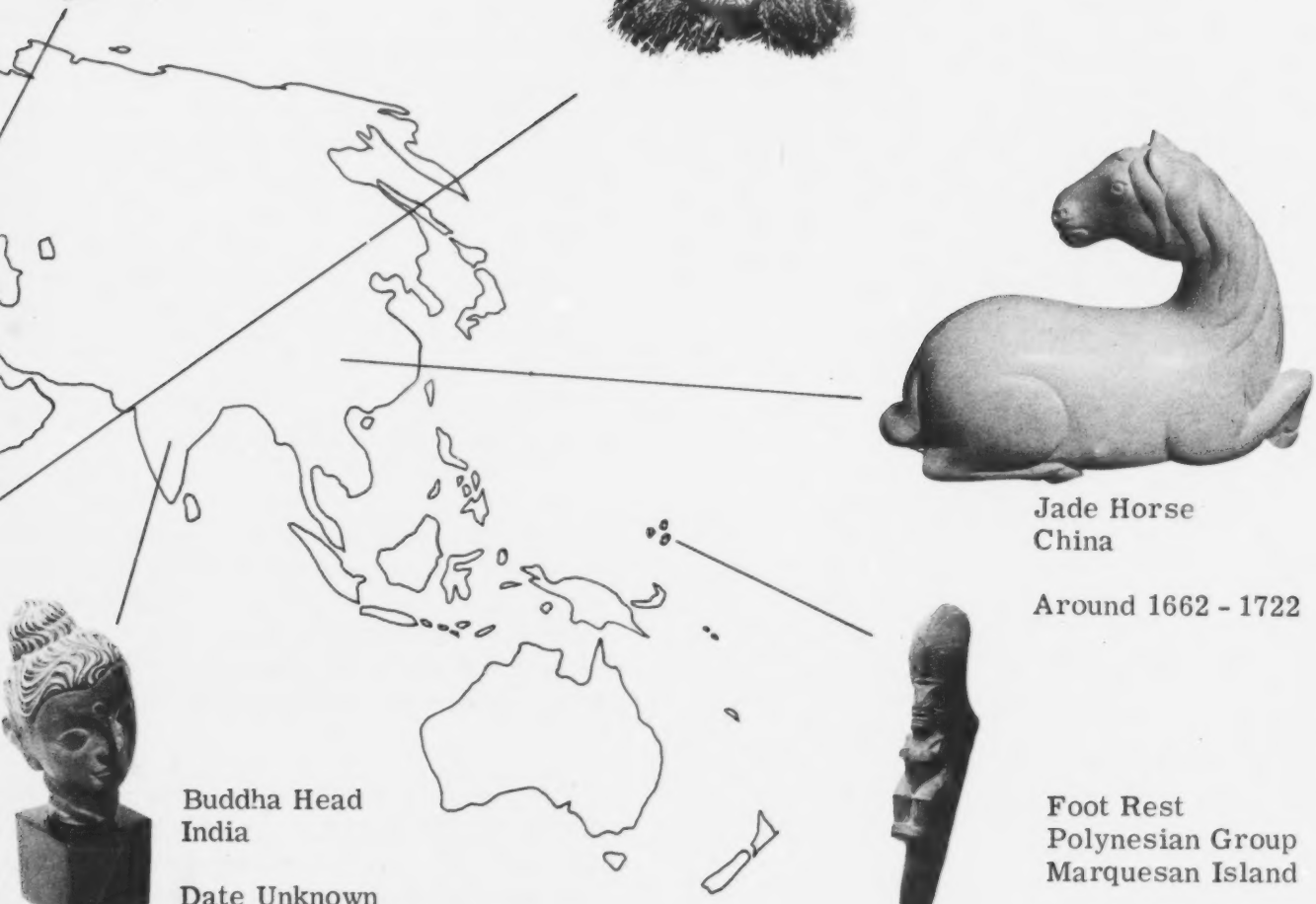
Date Unknown
from 8th to 12th century

F
P
M

A

Mask
Batetela Tribe
Africa

Around 1900



Jade Horse
China

Around 1662 - 1722

Buddha Head
India

Date Unknown
from 8th to 12th century

Foot Rest
Polynesian Group
Marquesan Island

Around 1850

THE SOURCES FOR ART–
NATURAL AND MAN-MADE OBJECTS

Now that you know the meaning of culture and have explored some of the places where art is found, you are ready to discover how different things in different cultures influence different artists. On the following pages you will be looking at pictures of paintings, drawings, sculpture, handcrafts, and architecture made in different countries and cultures, and at different periods in history. All of these differences will affect the way an art object will look. There are, however, some things about these objects that are the same, --the sources for the artist's ideas.

The first source you will INVESTIGATE is the influence of nature. As you look at the pictures on the opposite page try to find the source in nature that was the same for each artist, even though some of the artists are not from the same culture. The question to be answered is, what do these different pictures have in COMMON? What is the same thing in all of these pictures?

All of these pictures have as their SUBJECT a view that can be seen when one looks at what only nature can make. These pictures tell about the land that nature has made and they are called LANDSCAPES. Landscapes have been made by artists for hundreds of years, because nature makes many wonderful colors and textures that excite the artist and provide him with ideas for his work.

Nature makes the land on which man builds his houses, towns, and cities. Many artists have looked at the way man has built upon the land and they have expressed their reactions at what they have seen. Can you find the two landscapes on the opposite page where man and nature have both been the source for the artist's ideas?

WEATHER BEATEN
by Winslow Homer

VIE

CORYELL'S FERRY
by Joseph Pickett

JUNE
by George Innes

WEATHER BEATEN
by Winslow Homer

VIEW OF TOLEDO
by El Greco

CORYELL'S FERRY
by Joseph Pickett

JUNE
by George Innes

Nature also produces other objects that serve to **INSPIRE** artists. These other ide
are people and animals. On this page you will see examples of works that have all
spired by the way people and animals look, and the things people and animals do.
easily see that each picture is very different, though each is about people or anima
understand these pictures, you will need to investigate the ideas being expressed b
in each.

ZAPATISTAS
Clemente Orozco

THE PEACEABLE
KINGDOM
Eduard Hicks

THE BLUE SHEEP
Franz Marc

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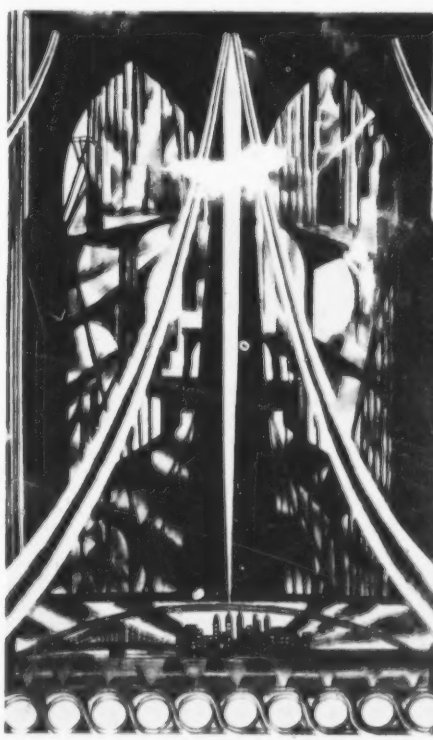
ZAPATISTAS
Clemente Orozco

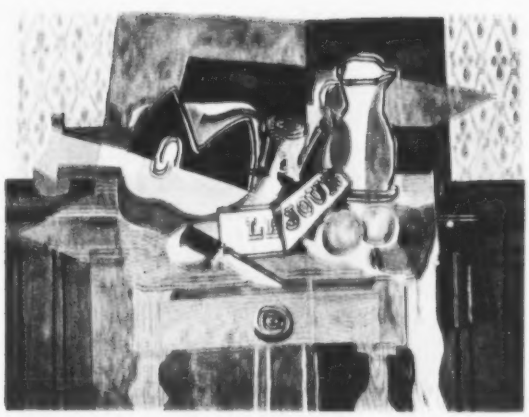
ECHO OF A SCREAM
David Siqueros

THE BLUE SHEEP
Franz Marc

On this page are examples of works inspired by things made or used by man. Th
objects you find in our cities or in our houses. Some of these pictures might be
CITYSCAPES. Two show you other sources for ideas, --the things that our fact
and the food we eat.

ST. MARTIN CANAL
Bernard Buffet





STILL LIFE: LE JOUR
Georges Braque

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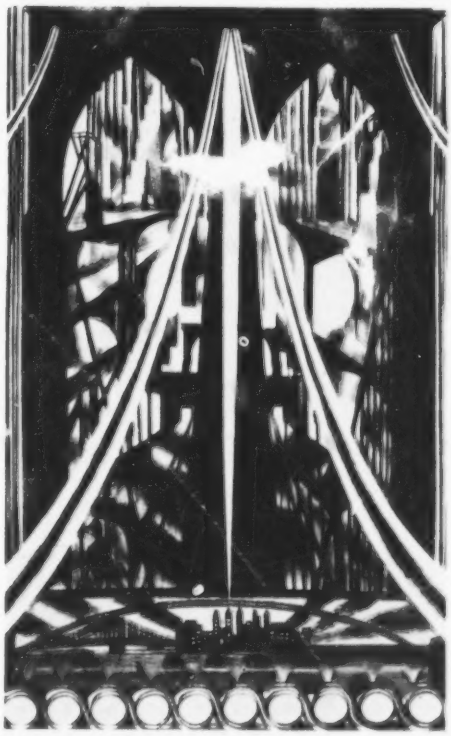
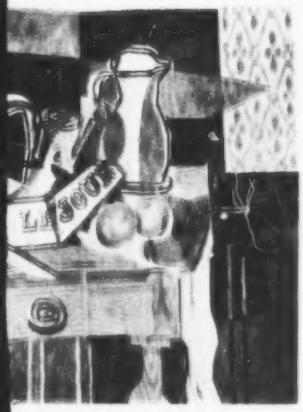
e examples of works inspired by things made or used by man. The kinds of
d in our cities or in our houses. Some of these pictures might be called
Two show you other sources for ideas, --the things that our factories make
e eat.

ST. MARTIN CANAL
Bernard Buffet



BROOKLYN BRIDGE
Joseph Stella



L LIFE: LE JOUR
Georges Braque

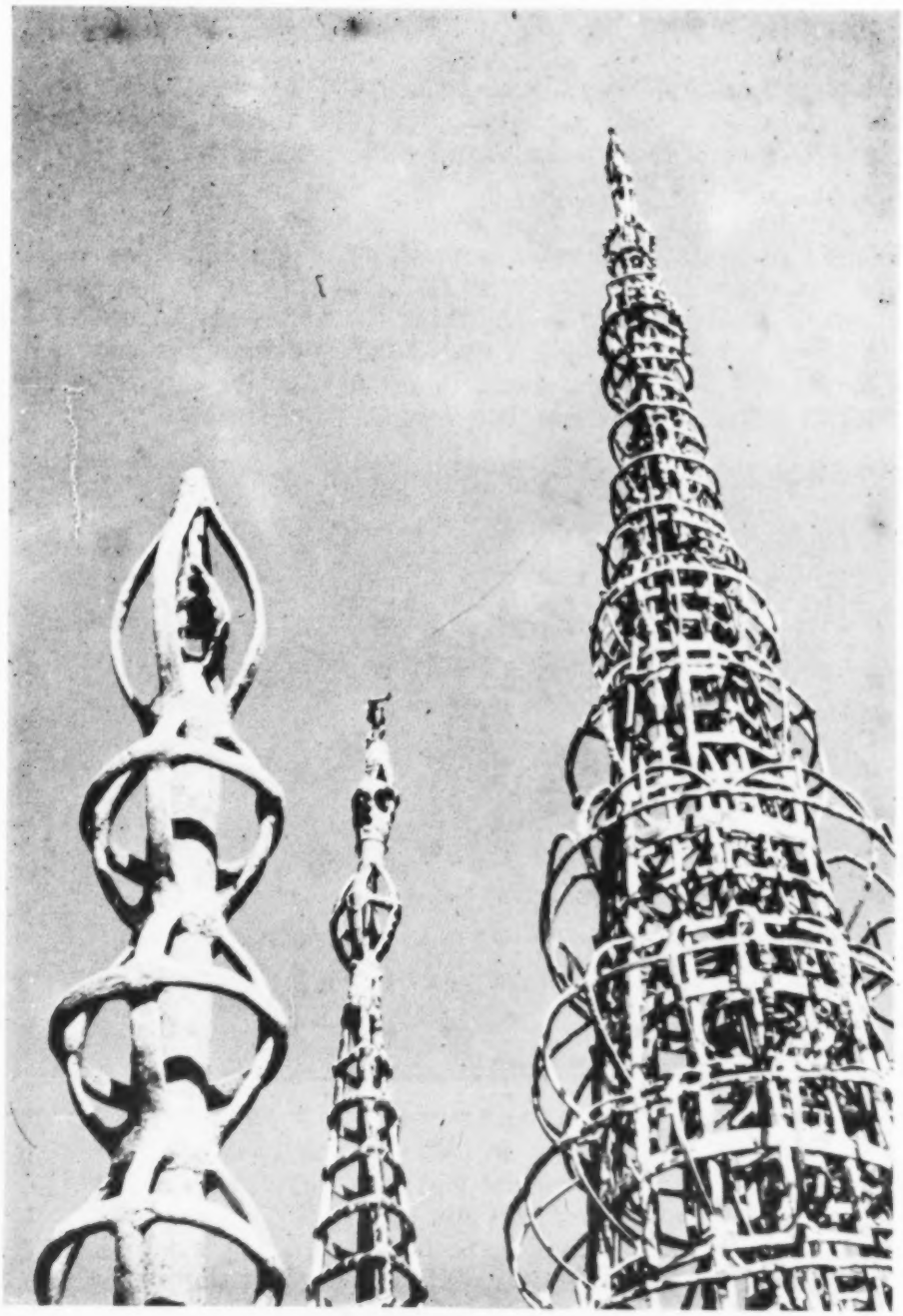
POMMES ET ORANGES
Paul Cezanne

THE SOURCES FOR ART – MATERIALS

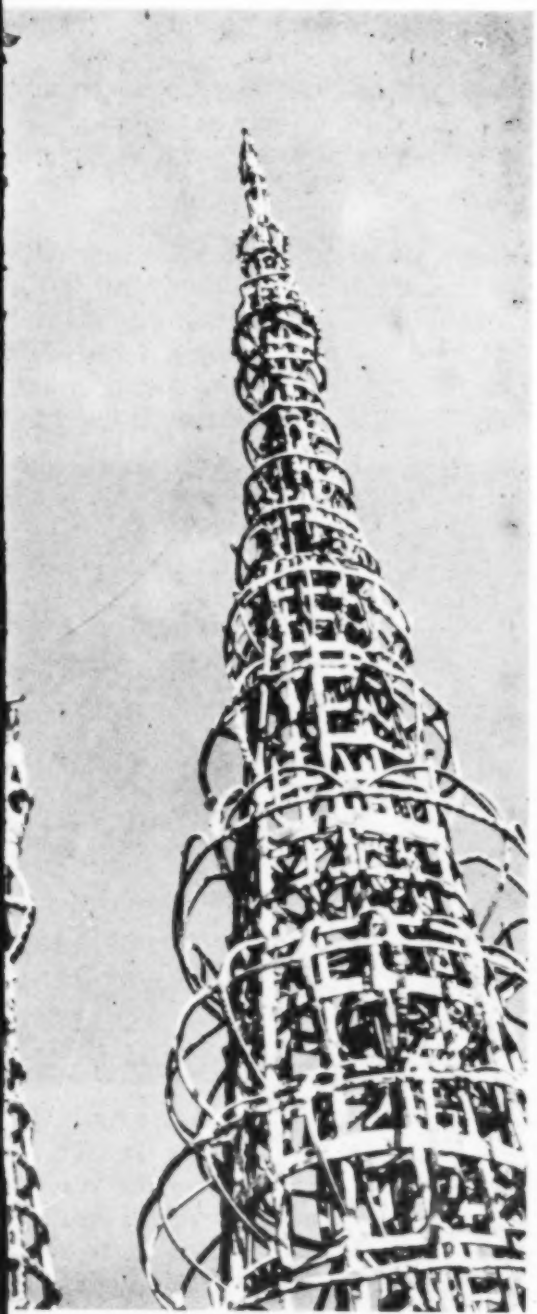
If you think of the two portraits you saw at the beginning of this book you will remember that one of the reasons they looked so different was because different materials were used to make them.

Artists often get ideas for what they make from the way the materials they use look and feel. Colors, shapes, and textures in different materials can direct the artist to do certain things. For example, an artist carving on a piece of wood may discover some of the wood grain (the lines in the wood) moving in a certain direction. He would then cut away certain parts so the shape being carved goes along with the grain in the wood.

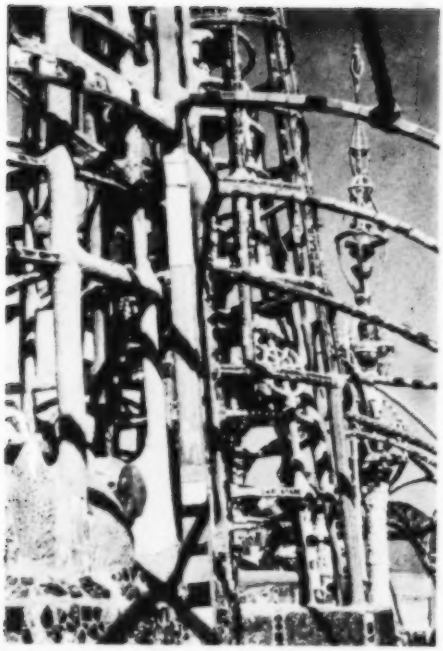
Artists can become very excited by materials. They are even able to see interesting colors and textures in things most people think of as junk. An example of an artist being inspired by materials other people might throw away can be seen in the pictures on the opposite page. This structure, called the Watts Towers, was built by a little man named Simon Rodia. Simon earned his living as a tile setter, and built his Towers in his spare time. Whenever he wasn't working, Simon would walk around his neighborhood or on the seashore picking up old bottles and seashells. If you look carefully at the pictures of the Towers you will see how he used these things, along with scraps of tile, to build and decorate his Towers. The Watts Towers are almost 100 feet high, and Simon spent 30 years building them. They stand today in Watts, California, as a reminder of what a man can do if he has the desire, skill, and imagination of the artist. Do you think you could be inspired to make an art object from materials other people throw away?

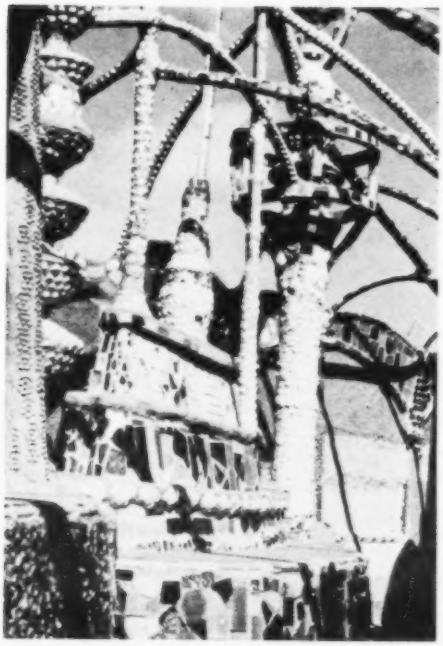


SIMON RODIA'S
WATTS TOWERS



SIMON RODIA'S
WATTS TOWERS

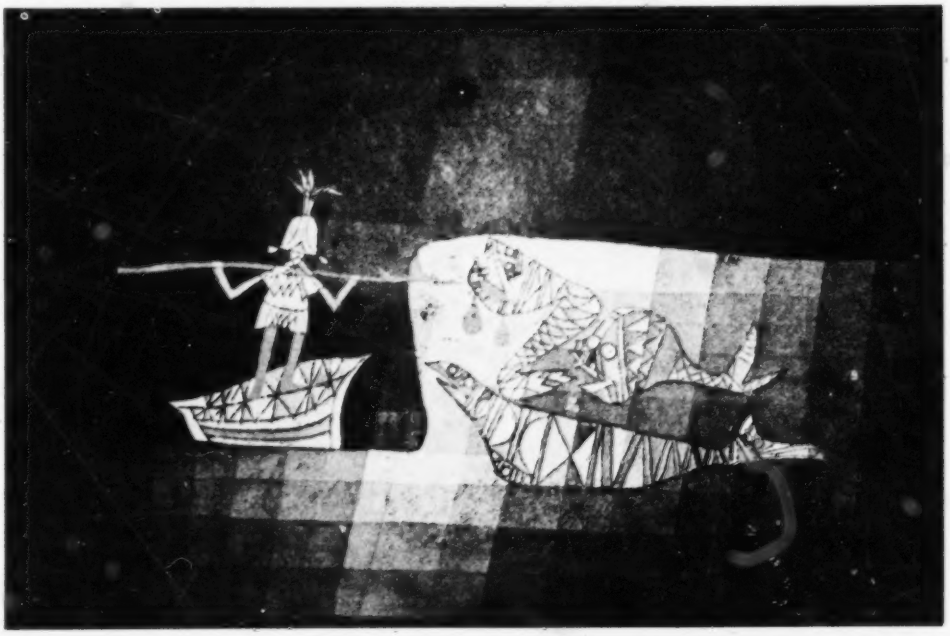




SOURCES FOR ART – FANTASY AND DREAMS

Materials are not the only things that excite artists. The things that we can imagine with our minds, or even the dreams we have as we sleep, are also sources for ideas for the artist.

Sometimes an artist will make something which may look real, but when we examine it closely we find that nothing we have ever experienced before looks like the thing the artist has made. We call this real but unreal work a FANTASY, because the way it is made could only come from one's imagination. We often use the word FANTASTIC to describe these kinds of objects.



This is an example of fantastic art. It was painted by the Swiss artist, Paul Klee. The title is "Sinbad, the Sailor". As you look at this picture, the objects you see may appear to have a magic to them. They can make you feel happy because some of them are funny looking, but others may scare you because they are so strange looking. The magical thing about this picture is that it can both scare you and also make you laugh.

Artists also use dreams for idea sources. If you can think about the dreams you have had, you sho
member that some made you happy and others may have frightened you. Dreams are real, because
really experience them. But they are often full of fantastic shapes and colors that are hard to talk
The artist uses his skills and imagination to talk about dreams. As you look at works by artists w
dreams as their source for inspiration, try to remember your own dreams and how they went beyo
was real. The name for art objects that dreams as their source for ideas is SURREALISM.

This is a surrealistic painting by Marc Chagall, who was born in Russia but did most of his art work in France. He has painted a picture about life in a little Russian town, like the one he lived in when he was a child. There are many things going on in this picture, but the way they are happening would seem to be possible only in a dream. Chagall tells us about the things we might see in his village. He also makes us feel strange, as if the place he paints about is very different from the things we experience.

I AND MY VILL
Marc Ch

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I AND MY VILLAGE
Marc Chagall

SOURCES FOR ART – OUR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS

How culture affects what the artist does should now be clear to you. The things artists see and the ideas that exist in a culture are two of the main sources for art. The sources for art we will discus now are the things people need to carry on their daily affairs.

When you get up in the morning a clock tells you what time it is; a sink and toothbrush and toothpaste make it possible to wash and brush your teeth; you put on clothing needed for your day's activities; food in packages is placed in bowls or dishes, and you use a spoon or fork to make it easier to eat the food you need for energy and health. You may walk or ride a bike or in a car to get to school. On the way you see trucks, stores, and buildings where all kinds of business takes place. You pass houses and apartments where other people live. You may walk or ride over bridges, or watch an airplane fly by, carrying people to work or to visit other people. When you get to school you look at books and films which help you learn many things about yourself and the world in which you live. On the way home you read all kinds of signs and posters that tell you when to stop or go and what to buy or where to fly.

All of these activities have something to do with art, because artists often have a job of making it easier and more pleasant to carry out our daily activities. If you remember our discussion about how art relates to our basic needs, you will recall the names for these kinds of artists.

Designers and craftsmen use as their source for ideas the functional needs of people. And they apply their skill and imagination, and what they know about all kinds of materials, as they help produce the things we need to be healthy, wealthy, and wise. On the opposite page are examples of the many things designed and produced by artists, that many people use as they eat, ride, or fly. Remember, the artist must know a great deal about eating, riding, and flying to help make such things.

or instance, the automobile designer needs to know: how large most people are; how long and how short eir legs may be; how far to the left and right people can see when looking straight ahead; how far apart soline stations will be; what kinds of roads cars might be travelling over; what color look MASCULINE hat men might like) and what colors are FEMININE (that women might like); and much, much more. The ape, size, and color of cars designed by artists are all affected by these things. They are, therefore, nong the sources he uses when he decides how the car he designs will look.

THE SOURCES FOR ART – A

The most important source of ideas fo
Everything we have been looking at has
parts of our culture or by man's imagi
one influence that affects all art, and
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tant part of culture, the art that other
the artist decide upon new ways to us
visual element --line, shape, value,

The three pictures below show us how
first picture is by the Dutch artist Vin
it before he travelled to France, where
by using small dots or brush strokes o
called IMPRESSIONISM. The second pi
pressionism. After Van Gogh moved f
was able to see the work of impression
ture is an example of Van Gogh's work
the ideas and the art of the IMPRESSION

PORTRAIT OF A PEASANT
Vincent Van Gogh

TULIP FIELD
Claude Monet

THE SOURCES FOR ART – ART ITSELF

The most important source of ideas for art comes from art itself. Everything we have been looking at has been influenced by certain parts of our culture or by man's imagination. There is, however, one influence that affects all art, and that is art itself. Artists get many of their ideas from their culture. Since art is an important part of culture, the art that others have produced often helps the artist decide upon new ways to use both materials and the visual elements --line, shape, value, texture, and color.

The three pictures below show us how art can influence art. The first picture is by the Dutch artist Vincent Van Gogh. He painted it before he travelled to France, where some artists were painting by using small dots or brush strokes of color, the way of painting called IMPRESSIONISM. The second picture is an example of impressionism. After Van Gogh moved from Holland to France, he was able to see the work of impressionist artists. The third picture is an example of Van Gogh's work after being influenced by the ideas and the art of the IMPRESSIONISTS.

EASANT

TULIP FIELD
Claude Monet

HOUSE AT AUVERS
Vincent Van Gogh

Artists are not only influenced by the art of their own culture, they also get many ideas for the
the art produced in other, sometimes very different, cultures. Below are shown several
African tribal art. They were all made during the 19th century. Each of these objects look v
from the art being produced in Europe and America at the time these objects were discovere
When you turn the page, you will see examples of art works by several of the great artists of
These artists saw many art objects that were brought out of Africa, and what they saw affec
made. What do think was so important about African art that it became a source for ideas
great non-African artists?

Head of a Mule
Wood carving from the
Bambara area in the
French Sudan.

Wood Mask
carved by the Senufo
people of the Ivory
Coast. It combines
animal and human spirits.

Carved E
from the
area. Se
carvings
Africa.

nfluenced by the art of their own culture, they also get many ideas for their work from other, sometimes very different, cultures. Below are shown several examples of hey were all made during the 19th century. Each of these objects look very different oduced in Europe and America at the time these objects were discovered in Africa. e, you will see examples of art works by several of the great artists of this century. ny art objects that were brought out of Africa, and what they saw affected what they was so important about African art that it became a source for ideas for many sts?

Wood Mask
carved by the Senufo
people of the Ivory
Coast. It combines
animal and human spirits.

Carved Elephant Tusk
from the Lower Congo
area. Seventy-six
carvings about life in
Africa.

If you examine the sculptures on these pages, you will see how the objects produced by African tribal artists influenced important European artists. The objects do not look like photographs of real people. These artists wanted to tell us important things about the subjects of their works, and wanted us to react not to details, such as eyelashes, but to the ideas in their work. They presented their ideas in simple, direct, and yet beautiful ways, just as the African artists did. What ideas can you see in these works? If you ask, for example, "What is the artist telling me about women?" you might find the answer. Some people think these artists might be reminding us that women are soft and round and very graceful, and that a goat is a very strong and lively animal.

HEAD OF A WOMAN
Amedeo Modigliani

HEAD OF A WOMAN
Constantin Brancusi

WOMAN COMBING HAIR
Alexander Archipenko

SHE GOAT
Pablo Picasso
1950

The artists who produced the art objects on these two pages are very famous because they introduced new ways of showing how they were influenced by their changing culture.

Around 1900, examples of African tribal art were being brought to Europe. They were something new added to the culture of Europe, and they changed the ideas of many of the most creative artists working in Europe at that time. Artists, for centuries, had been interested in showing how things really looked. They were mostly concerned with REALISM.

African tribal art had a great deal to do with the ideas people held about such things as birth, life, and death. In much African art we see emphasis placed upon those parts of the animals and people that have to do with animals being plentiful (needed for food) and people being born and living a long life. For example, the African tribal artist was not interested in making a mule look real. Making important those things that made a mule different from other animals, --in the simplest and most direct way, was what he was interested in doing.

QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

You have learned something about the many sources that influence what the artist will paint, sculpt, draft, or design. To help you review what you have read and seen, answer the following questions.

1. What is meant by the word CULTURE?

2. Why do art works made by artists in different parts of the world look different?

3. What is a LANDSCAPE?

4. In what ways can the materials used by the artist act as a source for his ideas?

5. What are two things that an artist does that make it possible for him to make art?

6. What is the word used to describe art that uses as its subject what appears to be impossible?

7. What is the art called that uses dreams for its source of ideas?

8. Why is art itself the most important source for the artist's ideas?

9. How do functional needs influence what will be made by artists called designers and craftsmen?

10. In what ways can art from other cultures affect the art of our culture?

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE SOURCES OF ART

1. In your geography or history classes you have studied about different people, countries, and periods in history. If you also learn about the art produced in different places and different times, it will help you to know more about what you are studying. For example different materials are used by different groups because of the area in which they live. Desert people make different things than do people who live near trees. Why?

2. If you know someone who is from a different country, ask them about the kinds of clothing, houses, furniture, and transportation in that country. Find out how things were made and the kinds of materials and tools used.

3. Try to make a picture that will communicate to others what your own neighborhood is like.

4. Think about a favorite picture of yours. Try to list as many possible idea sources as you can, which the artist may have used.

5. Make a fantastic picture of things that you know about. Turn objects upside down, make big things small and small things big. Use strange colors. Try to make something that is both funny and scary.

6. Become a junk collector for a week. From your collection, choose and arrange pieces into a form that is pleasing to you.

7. Look carefully at a cloudy sky. Try to find an idea that can be used in an art object that you can share with others.

8. Look around your school. Do you see any art forms that reflect the name or symbols used in your school? Try to design a book cover using your school symbol as your idea source.

WHY IS ART IMPORTANT TO YOU?

PART IV

This book has been produced to help you learn something a
Part I answered the question, What is art? In Part II you
troduced to people who actually make art, --artists called d
craftsmen, photographers, painters, and sculptors. And, in
you learned that art is a part of culture and that there a
sources which influence artists, especially art itself. In thi
you will read how art can be important to you. This is, of c
real reason to study art, to find out how art can serve you.

ART MAKES LIFE INTERESTING

One of the ways art can serve you is to make your life more
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excite and please you. But you do not see these things witho
Varieties of lines, dark and light patterns, textures, sha
colors may exist in your environment but you cannot see the
giving them a great deal of thought.

For example, if you look at picture #1 on the opposite page
see nothing but a blank space. This blank space shows wh
happen if you walked by a painting and did not even look a
work of art exists for you, --be it an automobile, bowl, or p
-unless you (1) recognize that it is there, and (2) realize t
possible for you to gain something from the work by paying
to it.

It is not enough, however, for you just to pay attention to
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appear as it does in picture #2, fuzzy and hard to unders
enjoy. For you really to benefit from looking at an art obj
need to <u>study it</u>. CONCENTRATING on an art object will
possible to see the work clearly, as in picture #3. And s
work clearly lets you experience all of the different kinds
shapes, values, textures, and colors that exist in the work.

PART IV

This book has been produced to help you learn something about art. Part I answered the question, What is art? In Part II you were introduced to people who actually make art, --artists called designers, craftsmen, photographers, painters, and sculptors. And, in Part III, you learned that art is a part of culture and that there are many sources which influence artists, especially art itself. In this section, you will read how art can be important to you. This is, of course, the real reason to study art, to find out how art can serve you.

ART MAKES LIFE INTERESTING

One of the ways art can serve you is to make your life more interesting. The colors, shapes, and patterns that you see in art objects can excite and please you. But you do not see these things without effort. Varieties of lines, dark and light patterns, textures, shapes, and colors may exist in your environment but you cannot see them without giving them a great deal of thought.

For example, if you look at picture #1 on the opposite page you will see nothing but a blank space. This blank space shows what would happen if you walked by a painting and did not even look at it. No work of art exists for you, --be it an automobile, bowl, or painting --unless you (1) recognize that it is there, and (2) realize that it is possible for you to gain something from the work by paying attention to it.

It is not enough, however, for you just to pay attention to, or be aware of, an art object. If that is all you are able to do, it will appear as it does in picture #2, fuzzy and hard to understand or enjoy. For you really to benefit from looking at an art object, you need to study it. CONCENTRATING on an art object will make it possible to see the work clearly, as in picture #3. And seeing the work clearly lets you experience all of the different kinds of lines, shapes, values, textures, and colors that exist in the work.

If you were to add up all that you can see by studying a work of art, you would find a great deal there. Art, therefore, makes it possible for you to have many RICH experiences, but, of course you must do your part, by making an effort to really study your visual environment.

MAN WITH BANDAGED EAR
Vincent van Gogh

CTURE #1

PICTURE #2

PICTURE #3

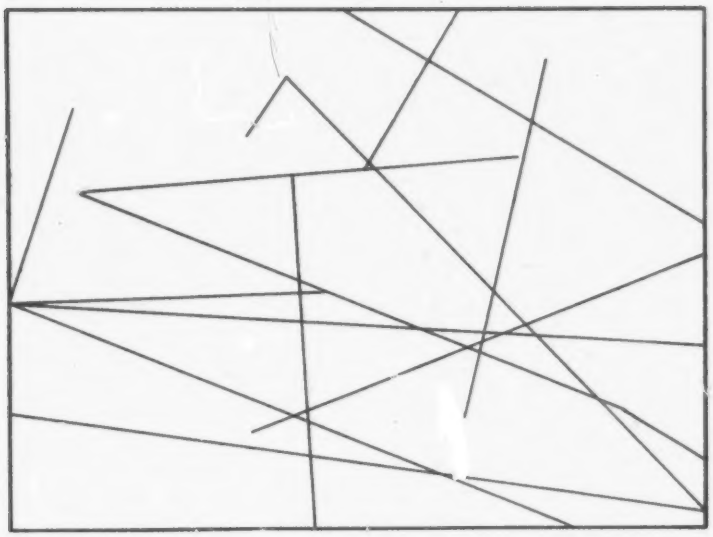
ART MAKES LIFE MORE ORDERLY

When you study art you begin to understand that objects called art are not made by simply putting together different kinds of lines, shapes, and colors, or by just pushing around different types of materials. Artists ORGANIZE the visual elements and the materials they use for special purposes. They plan carefully what they are doing, so that we will react in certain ways.

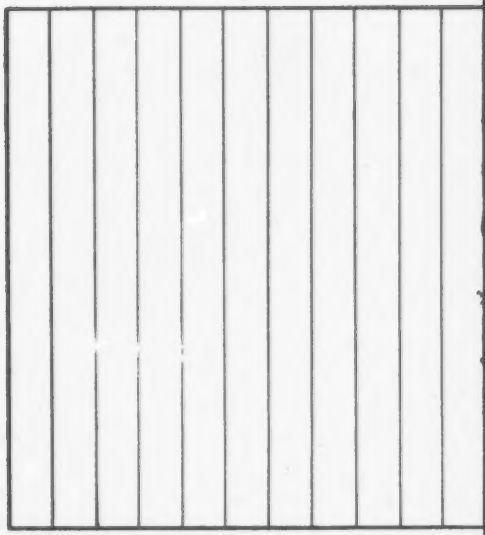
Carefully planning many of the things that make up our visual world helps to bring ORDER into our lives. If things were not put together well we would be confused by hundreds of things which had not been related to each other. An example of this kind of mix-up is shown in Figure #1 on the opposite page. Figure #2 shows how order can be made out of this confusion just by repeating certain objects.

Our environment often looks confused because many people have not learned how to organize the visual elements so that what they have to say is easily understood. Picture #3 shows a cityscape that seems to be all mixed-up because of the lack of organized planning; for example, the size of signs and where they are placed could be made much more orderly.

Picture #4 shows the kind of very pleasing and ordered view that we can experience when people who are concerned with organizing the environment help to design our roads and highways. The flowing lines made by the path of a freeway that you might see going to and from school, is a very good example of how something that we see can bring beauty and order into our lives. Can you think where there are other examples? A certain building, or bridge, or even a well-designed display in a store window, perhaps?



#1 CONFUSION

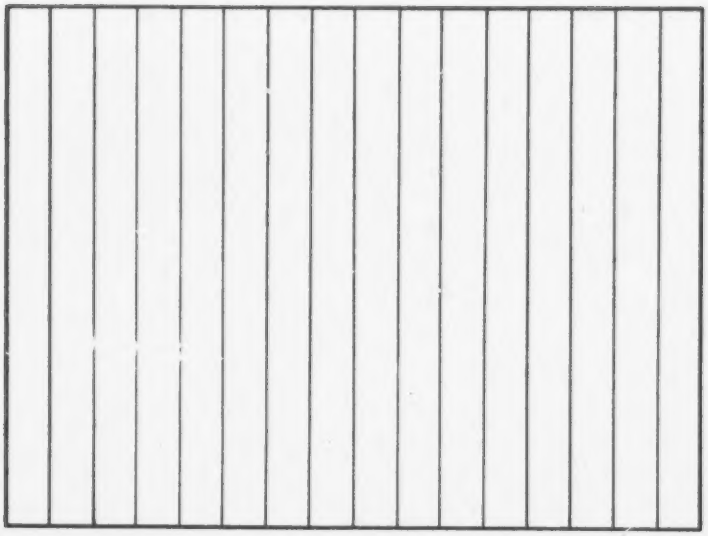


#2 ORDER

#3 CONFUSION
IN THE CITY

#4 ORDER
IN THE CITY

#1 CONFUSION



#2 ORDER

#3 CONFUSION
IN THE CITY

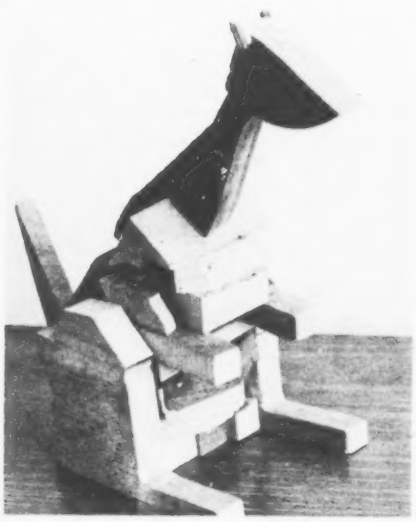
#4 ORDER
IN THE CITY

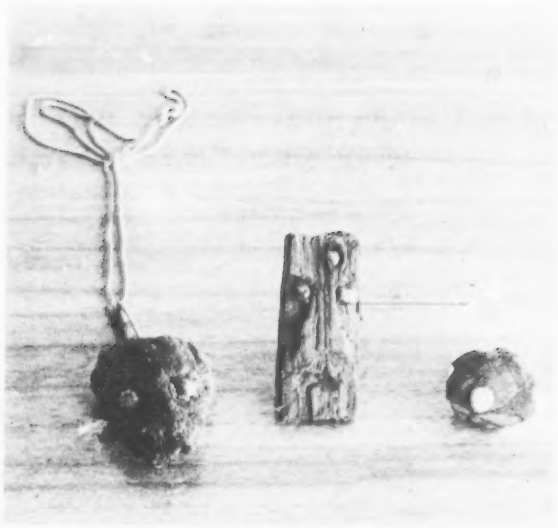
MAKING ART YOURSELF

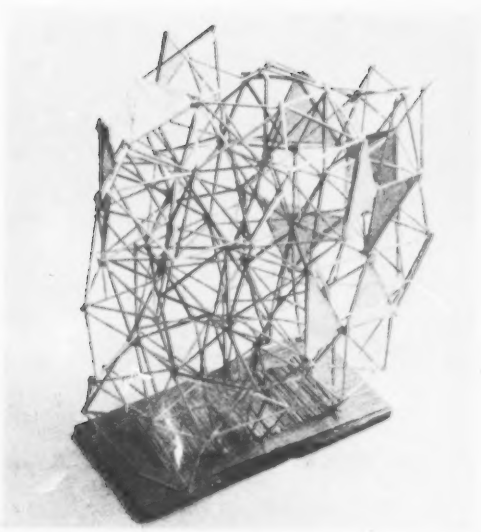
Learning how to look at and study art objects that can be found in your environment can bring interest, joy, and order into your life. One of the best ways to make this learning possible is for you to act like an artist yourself. You should try to draw, paint, craft, and sculpt. As you learn how to make art objects you will also learn how to respond to the art that others have produced. Another thing that you will learn is that making art can be a great deal of fun. Artists sometimes make art objects simply because they really enjoy what they are doing, and for no other reason.

What kinds of things do you think you can make? Perhaps you will want to make objects that are FUNCTIONAL, DECORATIVE, or INSPIRATIONAL. Your art teacher can help you learn how to make such things. You can also produce art objects outside of school which you can use, that are pretty, and which cause you to feel deeply. And, you don't even have to use the kinds of tools and materials usually found in your art classroom, --paints, crayons, chalk, etc. You can use materials other people might throw away, as did Noah Purifoy and Simon Rodia.

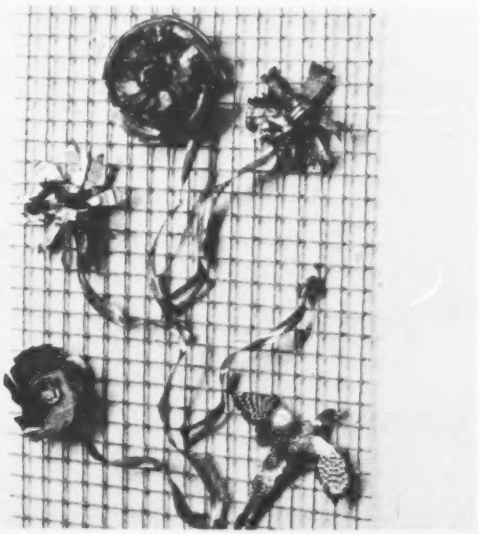
On the opposite page are several examples of functional, decorative, and inspirational objects that were made out of scrap materials. Can you think of things that you could make? Perhaps a waste paper basket made from an ice cream carton, decorated by puncturing holes in even rows on the side of the carton with a nail; or tearing apart a CORRUGATED paper carton and using its rippled, textured inside surfaces to make an interesting picture by pasting different shapes and textures to another piece of smooth cardboard; or finding some scraps of colored glass or rocks and glueing them to the side of a fruit juice can, which can then be used to hold many things, from hairpins to pencils; or taking thin scraps of wood, or paper straws, or toothpicks, and making a piece of wood sculpture; or simply carving interesting patterns in a piece of scrap wood or a fallen tree branch with a knife, a piece of glass, or the edge of a tin can.







Remember, while tools and materials are important to the artist, they are not nearly as important as are his abilities to use his imagination in organizing the visual elements into an important art object. So, even if you haven't the best of tools or materials, you can still be an artist. You can do this by using your imagination while carefully working with all kinds of things which can be found in your own neighborhood.



QUESTIONS FOR REVIEW

Art can be seen in galleries, museums, and even in everyday objects. Many people make art and far more experience it. The reasons that art is important to them are the same reasons art should be important to you. You need to be able to answer the following questions to be sure you understand the importance of art.

1. What is there in an art object that does not appear in a non-art object?

2. What happens if you only look at an art object and do not study it?

3. Why must you concentrate on an art object?

4. What are some of the differences between visual order and visual confusion?

5. Why is it important to live in a visual environment that is well organized?

6. Can you name several things or places in your own neighborhood that are well organized?

7. Why should you learn how to make art?

8. What three kinds of art objects would it be possible for you to make?

9. How is it possible to make art out of scrap materials?

10. What is the most important thing to think about as you are making an art object?

SUGGESTIONS FOR MAKING ART MORE IMPORTANT FOR YOU

1. Try to find examples from magazines or newspapers of pictures that show the following things: thick and thin lines; hard and soft shapes; light and dark colors; dull and bright colors.

2. On your way to and from school, try to count the different shades of one color that you see. Try to identify as many different textures as possible.

3. Make a list of your favorite movies, T. V. programs, and clothing and car styles. Try to figure out if there is anything which is similar in the way these things look.

4. Carefully look at the bark of a tree, a chain-link fence, a bunch of leaves on a bush, the patterns made by the shadows of fences and buildings. Make a list of reasons why such simple things may be interesting to look at.

5. Go into a room that is all messed up. Spend 15 minutes or an hour grouping things together. Try to make some order out of the confusion. Are things easier to find? Is the room now more pleasing to look at?

6. Draw a picture of the front of your house, from memory. Take your drawing outside and check to see how much you remembered, how much you left out.

7. Think about the colors you like and those which people have told you look good on you. Try to decide why you like a color or why a color makes you look good.

8. Take something which has been thrown away and change it into something that is useful and interesting to look at.

9. Cut 5 shapes from a square piece of paper. See how many different designs you can make, using the 5 shapes. Move them about into new arrangements.

WHY IS ART IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY?

PART V

You have read how art can be important to you. Since
part of that larger group that everyone belongs to calle
we need also to understand the ways that art serves us
other words, why art is important to society. After
I, II, III, and IV you may think you know why art is im
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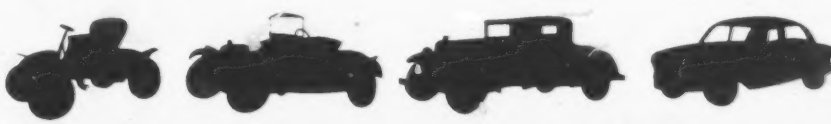
before and all the way back to the first automobile.



PART V

You have read how art can be important to you. Since each of us is part of that larger group that everyone belongs to called SOCIETY, we need also to understand the ways that art serves us all, or put in other words, why art is important to society. After reading Parts I, II, III, and IV you may think you know why art is important. This section will help you to review some things you should already know about art, and also introduce you to several new ideas.

ART HELPS US UNDERSTAND THE PAST

You have seen pictures of art objects that were made in different places and at different times in history; you know that art is made everywhere and has been produced throughout man's history. By looking at the art objects man has produced, we can learn something about our past. As we learn about the past, --what people wore, ate, did, and thought fifty, one hundred, and even a thousand ears ago -- a BOND is made between us and those who were here before us. Ties with the past are very important; they help us to know who we are and about the sources for our ideas and beliefs. On the opposite page are several pictures of art objects made during various periods in man's history. If you read the words that go along with these picture, you will learn how art contributes to our understanding of the past.

Understanding the past is one of the best ways to begin to know why things are like they are today. In fact, the chief purpose for studying about the past is to help us have a clearer understanding of life today. For example, the shapes of the automobiles being made today did not just happen, they are designs that have a history. The line of cars shown on the bottom of these pages shows how cars have changed their shape over the years. To understand why today's cars look as they do, you need to study what they looked like last year, the year before and all the way back to the first automobile.

This statue is about 2500 years old. This warrior is probably a hero of the Trojan War. From it we can learn something of how people dressed. They certainly did not dress as we do today. By looking carefully at it, you can also see that large flat areas and small detailed areas were made to call attention to the head of this statue. What does this tell you about the Greeks of the 6th Century B.C.?

DRAPED WARRI
Greek
6th Century B.C

A detail from
THE HARVESTERS
Pieter Bruegel

This is part of a large painting that shows many people doing different things. It was painted in 1565, over 400 years ago. From this painting we can learn about the style of clothing worn by the farmers of Northern Europe. We can also gather information about the things used for eating and working. What else can you learn about these people, from looking at this painting?

ART MAKES IT POSSIBLE TO SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH OTHERS

When you look at an art object you are usually looking at something other people have also seen. Because they and you are reacting to an object organized by an artist to communicate certain feelings and ideas, you and others will often have the same or similar experiences. Having similar experiences is very important, because this is the way groups of people are brought together.

Art can also be a basis for communicating with people who are very different from us. For example, you can look at the pictures of art objects, on the opposite page, which were made in societies very different from our own. If we study these objects we will learn where they come from and how and why they were made. Knowing about these objects will help us to understand the people who produced them. And when you understand someone, it is much easier to talk about, and to, them.

To understand how this happens, you might think about the groups to which you belong. Many of your friends have done and seen many of the things you have. You have watched the same T. V. shows, gone to movies together, and looked at the same advertisements in the same store windows or on the same billboards. Having shared these experiences, you have a BASIS FOR COMMUNICATION; you have <u>something to talk about</u>.

But there are many people you have never met before, with whom you will be able to communicate if you ever do meet. Why? Because they have also seen the same T. V. shows, movies, and advertisements, and this will make it possible for you to have something to talk about with them. These kinds of visual experiences, and many, many others, are among the experiences that help form and keep together our <u>largest group</u>, American SOCIETY itself.

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An Aztec ceremonial axehead
from Mexico

A teal
chair

An E
sculp
Cana

Understanding works of art also makes it possible for you to enjoy them. The things we enjoy are
value. When you value works of art made by people from other cultures, you will have a reason t
can be important to our world.

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eremonial axehead
o

A teak wood and wool
chair from Sweden

An Eskimo
sculpture from
Canada

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works of art made by people from other cultures, you will have a reason to believe that they also
world.

ART BRINGS NEW THINGS AND NEW IDEAS INTO OUR LIVES

Understanding the past and sharing ideas with others are two things art helps you to do. Studying art can help you to learn about the objects you see in your environment, and why they look as they do. Knowing about art can also help you understand cultures very different from our own. Another important thing art does for all of us is to change our world by bringing us into contact with new forms and ideas.

When an artist produces a new kind of art object we say his work is ORIGINAL, and that he is a CREATIVE artist. Taking either old or new materials and using them in new and different ways is the role of the creative artist. Whenever this is done, the artist brings something new into the culture; he contributes to changing the appearance of our environment.

Many of the art objects that appear in this book are original works of art. Before they were made, no one had thought of making things in the way they were made. They had not been seen before in our culture. Such creative works often become the source of ideas for other artists.

On the opposite page are examples of the work of very original and creative artists. The works have been very important in changing our visual environments. Can you think of several places where you have seen things that look like these works of art?